■ Magazine / Q1
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■ News / A2
NPAs ambush, kill lieutenant, 5 soldiers in Samar

■ Lifestyle / H1
Horgle & spa mystery, new children's story by Gilda Cordero-Fernando

■ Sunday Biz / B1
Heir to big family firms strikes out on his own

JOB *Market*
Check out exciting career opportunities

Senate to ask GMA to bar Burma from Asean chair

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and TJ Burgonio

SENATORS are looking to President Macapagal-Arroyo to make an official government stand to block Burma (Myanmar) from assuming the chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2006.

SENATE/ A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER *Sunday*
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Ban the bar; it's not true test for lawyers–Miriam

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

SINESWERTE LANG ANG MGA PUMASA!

BAN the bar exams.

Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago said she would file a resolution next week exhorting her colleagues to call for the abolition of the bar exams as a prerequisite

BAN/ A22

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Sunday, April 10, 2005 ★★ 118 pages 15 sections Vol. 19 No. 121 P18
website: www.inq7.net

Italians want papacy back

Filipino clerics, religious want 'global,' pro-immigration pope

AFP

THE MAN WHO LOVED MARY: On the 10th anniversary of the assassination attempt on his life, Pope John Paul II in May 1991 celebrated a thanksgiving Mass in the Chapel of the Apparition before the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in Fatima, Portugal, where the Virgin Mary, the faithful believe, appeared to three shepherd children. In 1997, the Pope dedicated a shrine in his native Poland to Our Lady of Fatima, thanking her again for "deflecting a bullet fired at point-blank range by a Turkish terrorist."

By Lito B. Zulueta

VATICAN CITY—With memories of his dramatic papacy and moving funeral still fresh in their minds, Filipinos in Rome, like all other Catholics around the world, have turned their attention to the aftermath of a papal death: the election of John Paul II's successor.

Although there are no clear frontrunners, Filipino and foreign clerics and religious based here believe the leading contenders are Italian—if only because the Italians may wish to restore the papacy to themselves.

"The talk is that the Italians have been figuring it out how to get back the papacy," said Fr. Jerry Stooke. "After all, the pope is supposed to be the bishop of Rome."

On Saturday, the Vatican said the Roman Catholic cardinals preparing to elect a successor to John Paul II had agreed to stop talking to the media and focus on preparing for the voting process starting next week.

Leading Italian candidates are:

- Cardinal Dionigi Tettamanzi of Milan, said to be a moral theologian close to Opus Dei, an organization of traditional Catholics;
- Cardinal Angelo Scola, the archbishop of Venice and a bioethicist who shares John Paul II's teachings on sexual mores and life-and-death issues;
- Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, a Vatican bureaucrat;
- Cardinal Ennio Antonelli of Florence; and
- Cardinal Tarciso Bertone of Genoa, who has served as secretary of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican doctrinal enforcer.

Bertone figured in the news lately when he lambasted the Dan Brown novel, "Da Vinci Code," about an alleged

ITALIANS/ A8

Wanted: Mystic pope who can turn on the young

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

FIVE noted theologians in the Philippines have drawn up for the INQUIRER a wish list on what the successor of Pope John Paul II should be.

He must be a "mystic" pope who must be able to "turn on" the young. He must embody the ethos of Jesus. He must confront global capitalism in order to raise up the poor.

He should give more space for women in the Church. He should continue to promote interreligious dialogue among different faiths and deepen the "inculturation" of the Church.

For Jesuit theologian Fr. Catalino Arevalo, a great admirer of John Paul II, the next pope should be "a continuation of the positive things ... even with a different style, different manifestation."

"The young are looking for faith and truth, and hold high aspirations in their minds and hearts, and want to give true meaning to their lives," says Arevalo, whom Popes Paul VI and John Paul II had appointed to serve in the 30-man International Theologian Commission, which meets every year.

"They found in John Paul II a figure of hope. All of us are largely disillusioned with our politicians," he says.

Also on Arevalo's list are women, sexuality and population issues, toward which the late Pope had been strongly intransigent.

WANTED/ A8

Who sat where; even bitter foes shook hands

VATICAN CITY—World leaders—some at political loggerheads or even officially at war—rubbed shoulders and gave each other handshakes of peace at John Paul II's funeral.

Dignitaries were seated in alphabetical order, according to the names of their countries in French, the accepted language of diplomacy.

The alphabetical seating plan divided heads of state whose relations were frosty or even nonexistent.

US President George W. Bush and French President Jacques Chirac—divided over the US-led war in Iraq—were separated only by their wives as they sat in the second row to the right of the altar in front of St. Peter's Basilica.

Chirac bowed to kiss the hand of US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who smiled broadly.

Bush stood by with hands folded.

Farther down the same row was Iranian President Mohammad Khatami, who greeted Syrian President Bashar Assad before taking his seat.

Washington has tense relations with Syria and none with Iran.

At one point, Israeli President Moshe Katsav shook hands with the leaders of Israel's archenemies, Syria and Iran, Katsav's office said.

"During the prayers, according to the Christian tradition we exchanged handshakes ... During this, it was the Syrian president who extended his hand to me and we again shook hands," Katsav told the website of the Maariv daily.

But in Teheran later, Khatami strongly denied that he shook hands with Katsav,

WHO SAT/ A21

After lifetime of waiting, Charles, Camilla wed

WINDSOR, England—Britain's Prince Charles married Camilla Parker Bowles, the true love of his life, on Saturday in a private civil ceremony that inevitably paled against his storybook wedding to Princess Diana more than 20 years ago.

Charles, 56, the heir to the British throne, and Camilla, 57, were married at the 17th-century Guildhall in Windsor, west of London, with an afternoon service of blessing and reception at next-door Windsor Castle to follow.

Camilla, now officially Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cornwall, wore an ivory-cream dress, matching full-length coat and a broad lace-brimmed hat topped with feathers. The groom opted for a classic black morning suit.

Opinion polls showed a majority accept Charles and Camilla finally tying the knot—but less than one in 10 support her becoming queen one day.

The wedding was dogged by gremlins from the start, leading up to Saturday when Charles woke up to see himself on the front pages shaking hands at the Pope's funeral with Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe who is accused by Britain of gross human rights violations. *(See story at right)*

Charles' spokesperson Paddy Harverson admitted: "There certainly have been some twists and turns along the way but most importantly, polls point to people supporting the wedding."

After delicate backroom negotiations with the British establishment, Charles and Camilla had won the tacit approval of church and state.

Camilla, hoping in vain for a low-key ceremony, said her big day was just a case of "two old people getting hitched."

Some 15,000 people, many cheering and waving Union Jack flags and hats, lined Windsor's picturesque streets under blue skies to catch a glimpse of the new royal cou-

AFTER/ A22

REUTERS

"A CASE of two old people getting hitched," Camilla Parker Bowles herself had said to tone down her long-awaited big day when she married the man she's loved for more than three decades.

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Visayas and Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms. SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/04/10/05

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

NPA kills 6 soldiers in ambush

By Joey A. Gabieta and Jani Arnaiz
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY— Six soldiers, including an army lieutenant, were killed in an ambush in Western Samar, officials said yesterday.

The soldiers were traveling through Calbiga town at 3 p.m. Friday when they were attacked by 30 New People's Army rebels, Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan said.

The fatalities were identified as Lt. Williamson Tan, Staff Sergeants Raul Cortina and Lemuel Introdizo; one Captain Garido; Pvt. Dionisio Acanto and another private identified only as Anob.

All were members of the 62nd Infantry Battalion based in Barangay Panayoran, also in Calbiga town, under the command of Col. Rey Lanuza.

Palparan, commander of the army's 8th Infantry Division covering Samar and Leyte, said the rebels positioned themselves on an elevated area in Barangay Camlogan when they fired at the soldiers who were on their way to Barangay Sinalangtan to check on the reported presence of armed men there.

Palparan admitted that the slain soldiers committed security lapses in going to the area and were apparently tricked into believing there would be a surrender.

Although outnumbered and "exposed to the enemy," the soldiers gallantly fought back but were killed after a 30-minute firefight, he said.

There were no casualties reported on the rebels' side.

Palparan condemned the killing and warned that the military would soon launch massive clearing operations in the town.

He said the number of guerrillas in the area had increased as a result of massive recruitment operations.

Friday's ambush was the biggest blow to government troopers in Eastern Visayas by the NPA. Their last major attack was on a military detachment in Oras town, Eastern Samar, that left five soldiers, 10 militiamen and a civilian dead.

Palparan, who assumed command of the army's 8th ID in February this year, vowed to neutralize the insurgency problem in Eastern Visayas within six months to a year.

In an earlier interview with the INQUIRER, Palparan said that "an allout war would be the best option to end the insurgency in Eastern Visayas."

However, he admitted that they would still need the support of civilians and the cooperation of the business sector to achieve peace in the region.

"We will ask the ordinary people not to support the rebels and we will also ask NGOs and businessmen to extend [livelihood] assistance to cut the rebels' mass base," he said.

According to Palparan, there are 600 to 700 fully armed rebels on Samar Island and about 200 more in Leyte. *With AP, AFP reports*

Military: NPA at doorstep of Metro Manila

By Fe B. Zamora

THE COMMUNIST New People's Army has forces in and around Metro Manila in anticipation of a "general uprising" that would lead to an eventual takeover of power by the rebels, according to a secret intelligence briefing paper intended for top military officers.

The NPA presence in the capital was supported by "progressive forces" which engage in mass actions, propaganda and even "character assassination" of politicians in an attempt to "lower their credibility," according to the 38-page briefing paper.

The paper said the daily street rallies were just "dress rehearsals" for the general uprising.

"Once the epidemia [sic] of discontent and agitation hits the nation, the subjective forces are built up and are ready to strike at their common opponent—the seat of political power," the document said.

Excerpts

The military released excerpts from the briefing paper titled "Knowing the Enemy: Are we Missing the Point?" to the media this week following the controversy caused by the Armed Forces having reportedly labeled two media groups as being communist fronts.

Navy Lt. Commander Tedoro Quinzon, who conducted the briefing, said the paper was based on documents seized from, and statements of, captured insurgents.

Quinzon said that contrary to reports that the NPA was losing the war, "encounters are happening in Bulacan, Batangas, Antipolo. We can hear them at the doorsteps of Metro Manila.

'Just because you don't see the NPA, [it does not mean] the enemy is not there. That is a false sense of security. We should be aware of what is happening around us and how people would influence other people,'' Quinzon said in a mix of English and Filipino.

Noisy

According to Quinzon, the NPA was "noisy" in the 1980s because "they knew they were not really strong."

The NPA, whose regular membership reached an all-time high of 26,000 in 1988, suffered a serious setback after it was reported that it had killed its own members it had suspected of being government agents, he said.

He said a disagreement among its leaders also split the Communist Party of the Philippines, with those standing by founder Jose Ma. Sison grouped as "reaffirmists" while those opposing him were branded as "rejectionists."

The paper said it was Sison's treatise, "Philippine Society and Revolution," that provided the foundation for the NPA's strategy of a "people's protracted war."

According to Quinzon, the military foresees a communist revolution similar to the Tet offensive in Vietnam and the Bolshevik uprising in Russia.

"Nobody knew it, nobody was able to predict it, but it happened and they took over power," he said.

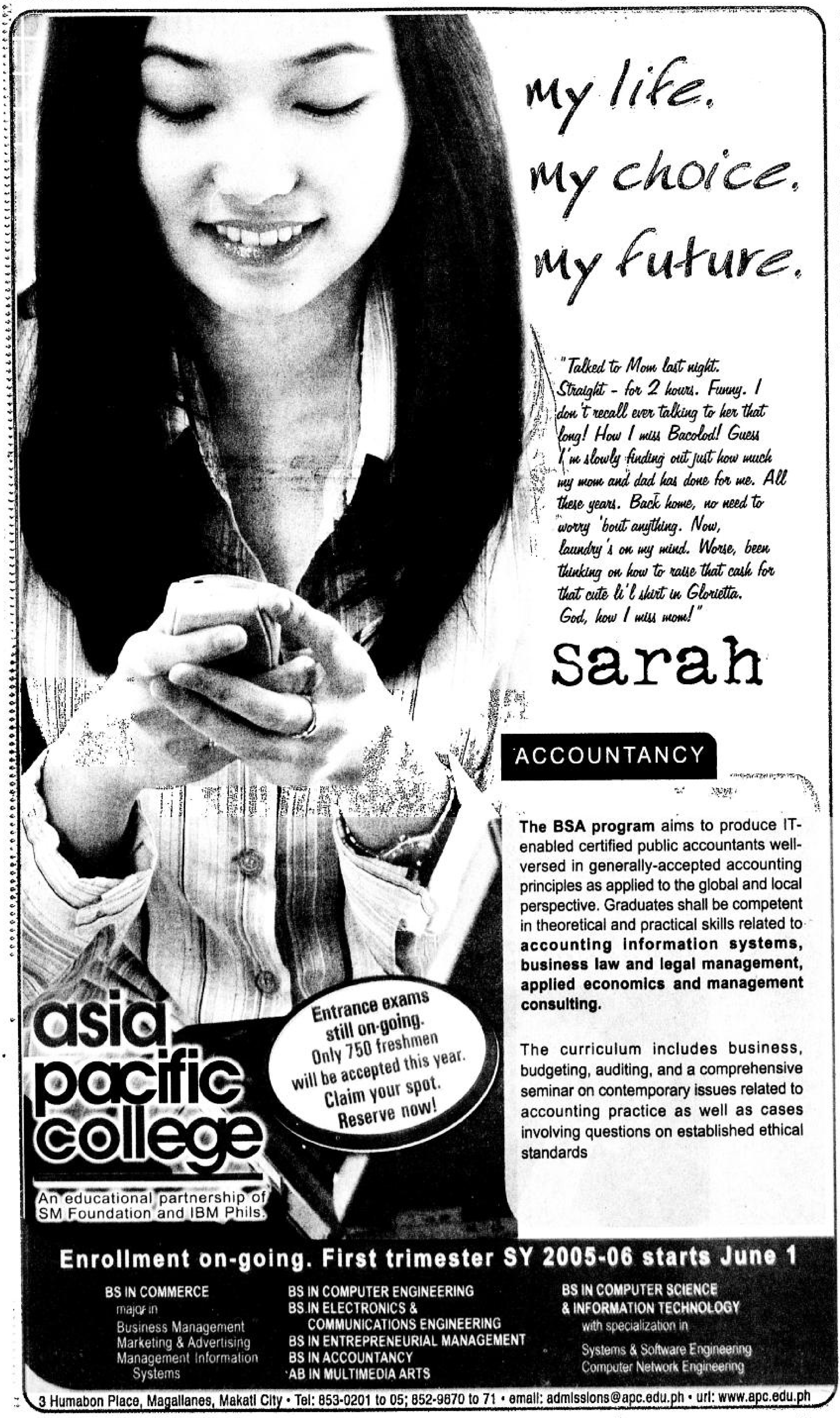
Fighting fronts

He said the NPA controls 128 guerilla fronts nationwide, most of which are in Mindanao.

These "fighting fronts" are intended to "draw away" the Armed Forces to the south, thus allowing the rebels to flourish in Central Luzon and Southern Tagalog, the two regions that "sandwich" the metropolis.

The document also identified several groups which the CPP-NPA had control of or was trying to control.

These groups included Lumad Mindanaw, Kalipunan ng Katutubong Mamayan ng Pilipinas, Congress of Organization for Unity, Reform and Advancement of Government of Employees (Courage), Pinag-isang Samahan ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide (Piston), College Editors Guild of the Phil., the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Phil., Secretariat for Social Action of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Phil., Philippine Independent Church, National Council of Churches in the Philippines, United Church of Christ in the Phil., United Methodist Church of the Phil., Free Legal Assistance Group, Protestant Lawyers League of the Phil., Ibon Data Bank, Agham, National Union of Journalists in the Philippines (NUJP), Philippine Educational Theater Association (Peta), among others.



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Sarah

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Esperat murder suspect gives up

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
PDI Mindanao Bureau

TACURONG CITY, Sultan Kudarat—One of the four suspects in the March 24 killing of Marlene Garcia Esperat, an anti-corruption crusader and columnist of a local community paper, The Midland Review, is undergoing interrogation by the police.

The suspect, Randy Grecia, alias Jake, surrendered two days ago to a General Santos City police official whose wife is reportedly a cousin of the suspect.

Sultan Kudarat Gov. Pax Mangudadatu told reporters the police official, whom he refused to identify, confirmed Grecia's surrender.

Grecia allegedly served as one of the three lookouts when the gunman entered Esperat's house to kill her.

Police sources said the suspect identified the gunman as Estanislao Bismanos, alias Jun Brown, while the two other lookouts were Jerry Cabayag and Owe Bancare.

Chief Supt. Antonio Billones, police chief for Central Mindanao, said operations were ongoing to capture the other suspects.

Sources said Grecia told police the killing of Esperat had something to do with her exposé involving high officials of the Department of Agriculture in Central Mindanao.

As this developed, more than two thousand people showed up for the funeral of Esperat at the Shangrila Cemetery here yesterday morning.

Lilibeth Garcia, elder sister of Marlene, said they had expected about a thousand people but the number that showed up was more than twice that.

"We didn't expect such a big turnout of sympathizers," she said.

Among those who attended the burial were the governor, his son Rep. Suharto Mangudadatu of Sultan Kudarat's 1st congressional district, Col. Jerry Jalandoni of the 604th Army Brigade, Waldy Carbonell representing the National Press Club and journalists from the South Cotabato-Sultan Kudarat-Sarangani-General Santos (Soscsksargen) area.

In Manila, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. sought a Senate investigation into the Esperat killing and vowed to closely monitor the police investigation of her case.

Pimentel revealed that Esperat had written President Macapagal-Arroyo more than a month before her death, asking for protection because of death threats she had received.

The opposition senator said Esperat may have "intentionally or unintentionally identified her own killer by naming certain personalities in her letter who had an axe to grind against her after she sued them in court."

In Legaspi City, meanwhile, Senior Supt. Roque Ramirez, Albay police director, admitted difficulty in solving media killings in the province due to lack of witnesses.

Among the unsolved killings are those of John Villanueva, a radio commentator at dzGB; Joy Evelyn Militante, a former GMA-7 reporter; Rowell Endrinal, a dzRC commentator, and Beverly Marmol, a PNP radio commentator. ***With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana, and Jed Ll. Bacason, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

PNB names new head

VETERAN banker Omar Mier has been appointed president of Philippine National Bank by the PNP board, replacing Lorenzo Tan who resigned recently, it was announced yesterday.

Mier, who joined PNB as executive vice president on Aug. 15, 2002, said he had accepted the board's appointment which, however, would still need the approval of the bank's stockholders during their annual meeting in May.

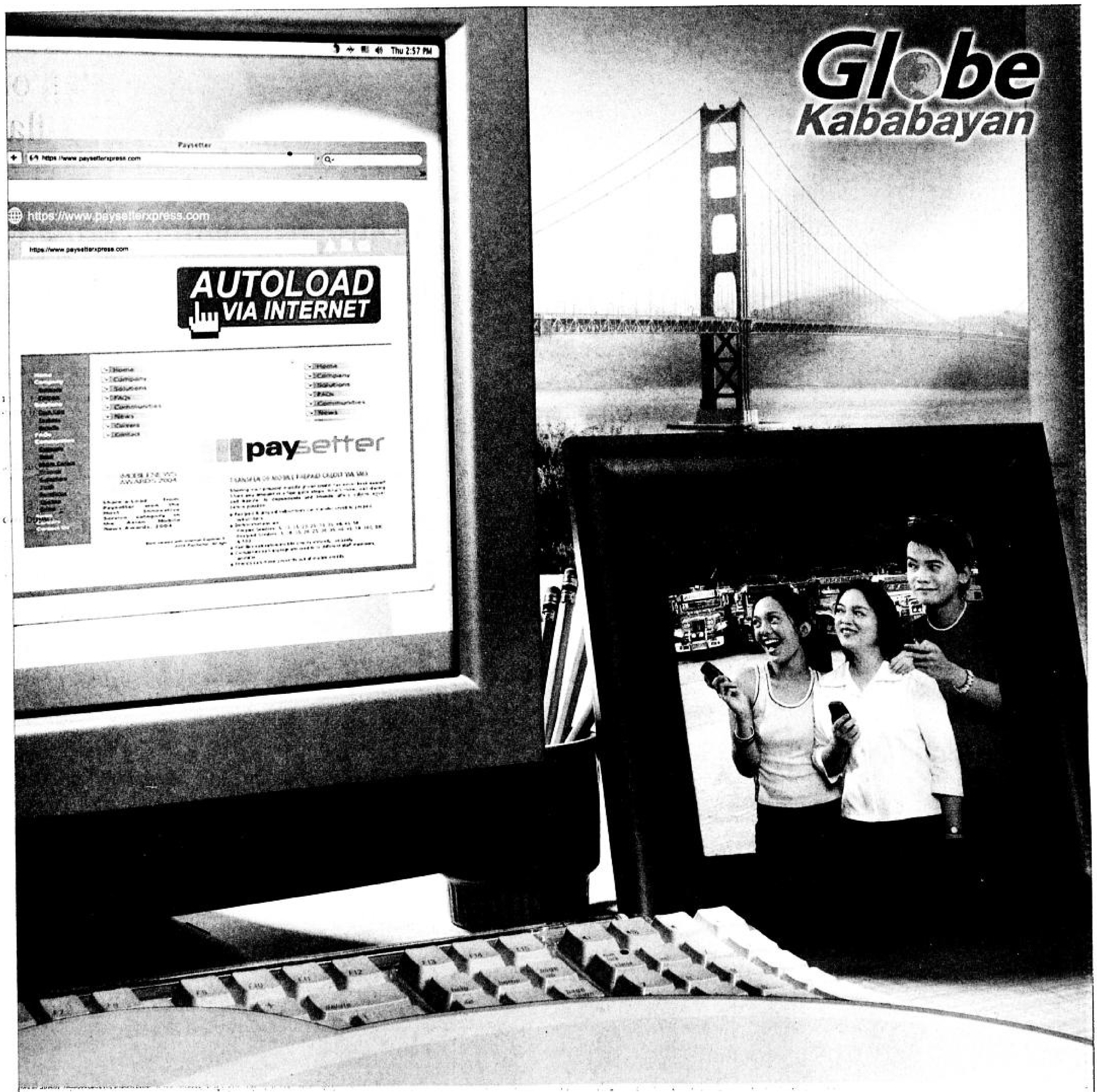
Mier, whose contract as EVP expires on Aug. 15, said he would assume the presidency in an acting capacity until officially named during the stockholders meeting.

In a statement, PNB said its directors had expressed confidence that Mier would be "able to sustain the improvements in PNB's operations and financial condition in the coming years."

Mier joined PNB as its chief credit officer and remedial management head. He handled credit policy formulation and ensured that credit policies were effective and responsive to the bank's various loan customers.

He was also tasked to manage the bank's loan portfolio, particularly its non-performing loan (NPL) accounts. From a high of P50.3 billion in June 2002, or 53 percent of its total loan portfolio, Mier reduced the NPL level to P37.6 billion or 39 percent as of end-2004.

As chair of Victorias Milling Corp. in the last three years, Mier managed to turn VMC around, finally making its first profit of P31.5 million in crop year 2002-03 after the company filed for a suspension of payments in 1997. *Doris C. Dumlao*



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UP officials score new Charter bills' provisos

By Alcuin Papa

THE COUNTRY'S legislators just would not leave the University of the Philippines alone.

Even as they prepare to fight for congressional ratification of a new UP Charter designed to bring the university up to par with the best international academic institutions, UP officials have expressed alarm over new provisions being proposed in the versions of the charter now pending in both houses of Congress.

In a recent memo to the university's chancellors and deans, UP president Emerlinda Roman called for consultations in the UP community on certain issues being raised in the legislature concerning the new charter.

She said it was time the university community reviewed the salient points of the new UP Charter bills being proposed in the House and the Senate.

A new Senate Bill 1833 is now undergoing interpellation in the chamber, which had earlier junked a previous UP Charter bill, Senate Bill 2587.

"During the current round of interpellations, however, and despite other positive suggestions, certain senators have proposed amendments and interposed objections that demand our critical attention," Roman said.

These issues include a proposal from Sen. Sergio Osmeña III to establish an oversight committee to review the UP's financial transactions, particularly relating to the landholdings of the university.

Another is a proposal from Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago to allow siblings of UP alumni to enter the university without an entrance examination; to include a provision against the abuse of admissions procedures, and to distinguish academic freedom from "administrative procedural due process."

During deliberations on the rejected UP Charter bill last year, UP officials got a tongue-lashing from Santiago over the rejection of her late son for admission to the UP College of Law. The senator said the rejection "eventually caused him to commit suicide."

Still another proposal from Sen. Manuel Roxas III calls for the removal of the corporate powers of the university.

While the House unanimously passed the previous Charter bill in the last Congress, a working draft of a new House version of the UP Charter bill has just emerged from the House committee on higher and technical education.

Roman said the new House version contained "new and potentially contentious provisions that have not been discussed within the university itself."

These provisions include the substitution of the phrase "premier state university" for "national university" reportedly because a private National University already exists.

The new House version also provides for consultative assemblies which would address administrative and non-academic concerns.

Finally, two sections of the House bill provide for the adoption of measures to enable students and faculty members "to exercise established religious beliefs consistent with the accepted norms and morals of society."

4 missing fishermen spotted

A UNITED States rescue aircraft on Friday spotted the boat carrying four Filipino fishermen who had been missing at sea for 15 days, and a Philippine Navy ship was en route to pick them up, officials said.

The P-3 Orion plane that was dispatched to South China Sea waters near Scarborough Shoal, off Palawan, found the fishermen on board their boat 148 nautical miles (259 kms) southwest of Palawan, said Navy spokesperson Capt. Geronimo Malabanan.

A navy rescue ship is expected to reach the site at about 3 a.m. Sunday, Malabanan said.

The fishermen left the southwestern port of Subic in Zambales province on March 22 and failed to return as scheduled on March 26, when they were reported missing.

Navy planes and boats dispatched to the area had failed to spot the missing fishermen, prompting the government to ask for help from the US Pacific Command based in Hawaii.

Malabanan said the skipper of the boat, the M/V Emily II, established radio contact with naval authorities on Tuesday but, could not pinpoint their exact location since they had not seen any landmarks for the past five days.

The skipper said his boat was headed towards Scarborough Shoal when their boat's engine ran out of fuel.

AP

Long division, fractions, and the things that truly count.

Mr. Lao exhaled a whispered prayer as he opened the envelope. He knew that inside, his son Raymund's latest grades would be waiting, and he wasn't too hopeful. Raymund hadn't been doing well since early in the school year and he could see no reason for things to be better this quarter. "He lacks concentration," his teacher said. "It's like when he sees numbers he turns away so he can look at other things instead." Mr. Lao closed the envelope again.

"Pare, don't worry. Raymund will be fine. I used to hate math myself. And I'm a banker." That's what Ernie had told Mr. Lao over coffee as they studied the latest financials of Mr. Lao's linen business. Ernie was Mr. Lao's banker at iBank. He took care of Mr. Lao's corporate account, and was used to dropping by his office to facilitate transactions. "Maybe I can find a tutor for him," Ernie offered.

Mr. Lao had wanted to say "Thanks, but I've already tried and no tutor wants to take him on. They're too concerned about helping students who are already doing well. Besides it's too late in the year."

But he didn't say that. Something in Ernie's manner sparked a sense of hope in Mr. Lao. So instead, "Thanks, Ernie. I'd really appreciate it."

And Ernie did find a tutor. "She helps my sister's son with his math lessons, too, so she knows what she's doing. Besides, she's really patient. Mahusay talaga," he explained.

Mr. Lao had been really thankful then. Specially when he saw the renewed eagerness with which Raymund tackled even the trickiest fractions.

"You didn't have to, Ernie. But thank you so much. Salamat."

"Anything to help, sir."

But that was a semester ago. And today, Mr. Lao fumbled nervously with the envelope. "I'll have to recommend him to transfer schools if his grades don't get better," the teacher had said. Mr. Lao drew out the card. Amid a jumble of mid to high line of eights it stood out rather plainly:

Math: 93.

Raymund had apparently done his job. So had the tutor. And Ernie as well.

Chuckling at his own lack of faith, Mr. Lao got up, and got ready to drop by the bank.

He had some thank yous to make.

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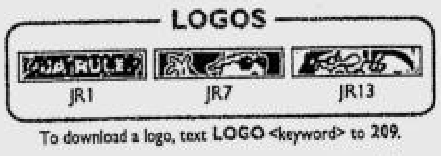

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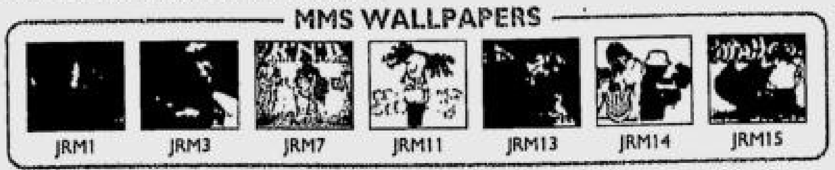

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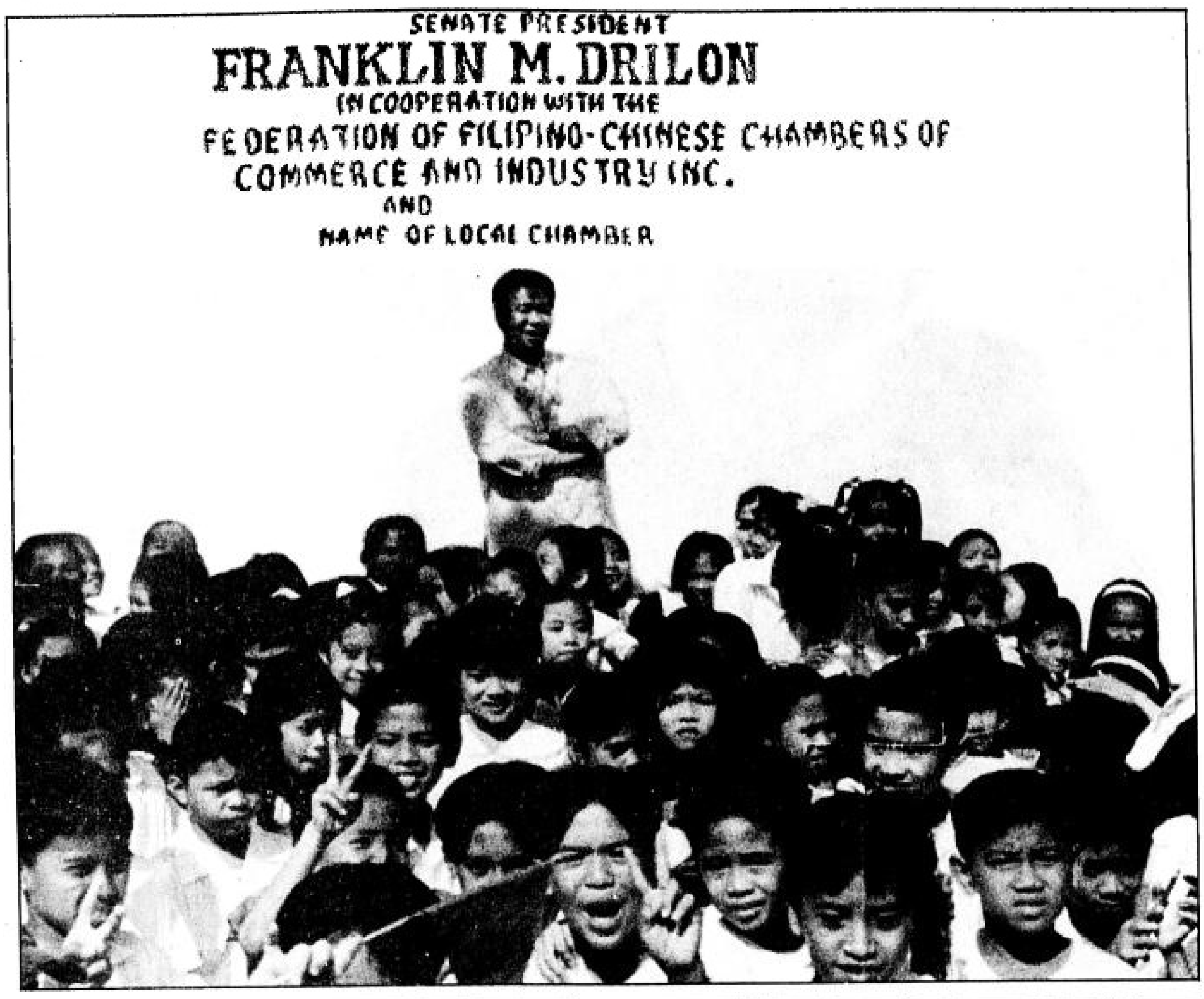
Drilon's novel classroom project to benefit 80,000 pupils annually

Classroom allocation per region

NCR	4
CAR	12
I	88
II	68
III	124
IV	232
V	108
VI	204
VII	48
VIII	104
IX	24
X	36
XI	62
XII	30
XIII	6
Total	1,150



Senate President Franklin Drilon poses for a souvenir with pupils in Cavite, who are beneficiaries of his school building project with the FFCCCII. Drilon alloted more than P200 million of his pork barrel fund to help reduce the classroom shortage in the country.

AFTER three years since its launching, the Drilon-Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Inc. School Building Project completed 814 classrooms all over the country while 336 more will soon be built.

Once construction of these 1,150 classrooms is completed, close to 80,000 pupils annually will now have a place for learning. In the countryside, many schools hold morning and afternoon sessions due to lack of classrooms.

This is how successful the public-private sector partnership is in implementing a noble project aimed at reducing the acute classroom shortage in the country. It was but another facet of the multi-faceted social and civic activities of the federation that started in 1960. Thousands of schools were built in depressed and far-flung areas with a dearth of classrooms.

The program got a needed boost when in May 2002, Senate President Franklin M. Drilon signed a memorandum of agreement with the federation that formally jumpstarted the "FFCCCII-Senate President Franklin M. Drilon School Building Project." He allocated more than P200 million of his public works entitlement to build classrooms.

"We are honored and privileged to be a partner of Senate President Drilon in this highly commendable undertaking. We hope our modest contribution will make a difference in the lives of our poor countrymen," said FFCCCII President Robin Sy.

With this program, Drilon initiated a novel, graft-free and cost-effective way of building infrastructure projects using pork barrel funds.

"The much-maligned pork barrel funds can be put to better use if allotted to more useful and tangible things that would benefit generations of our countrymen and in the process remove the stigma attached to pork barrel funds," Drilon said.

The Senate chief also took note of the present scenario where pupils hold classes in dilapidated classrooms that put school children in danger. In far-flung areas, the situation is more depressing with classes actually held under the trees.

The Philippines has one of the biggest class size in the world and this is rooted in the lack of classrooms. Class size in Philippine schools is 50 to 55 pupils per class. In some regions, the class size is 60 to 70. In contrast, Indonesia has only 24 and China, the most populous country, has only 22 pupils per class.

Under the partnership, a standard two-classroom facility was built at a cost of P400,000. It is worth noting that it costs government contractors twice that amount to build a similar facility.

Measuring 7 x 14 square meters, the duplex-type building is a concrete structure with steel beams and GI roof.

The Drilon scheme eliminates the opportunities for corruption. For one, the FFCCCII does not have to bid for the project. Moreover, it does not have to beg for funds because the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Department of Budget and Management ensures the timely release of the funds. There are no kickbacks.

The FFCCCII has an extensive network of members nationwide who are in the construction business, ensuring lower cost of materials.

PRES. GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
FRANKLIN M. DRILON

Teachers and school officials express their gratitude to the Senate President and the Federation for helping them solve the classroom shortage by donating a two classroom facility.

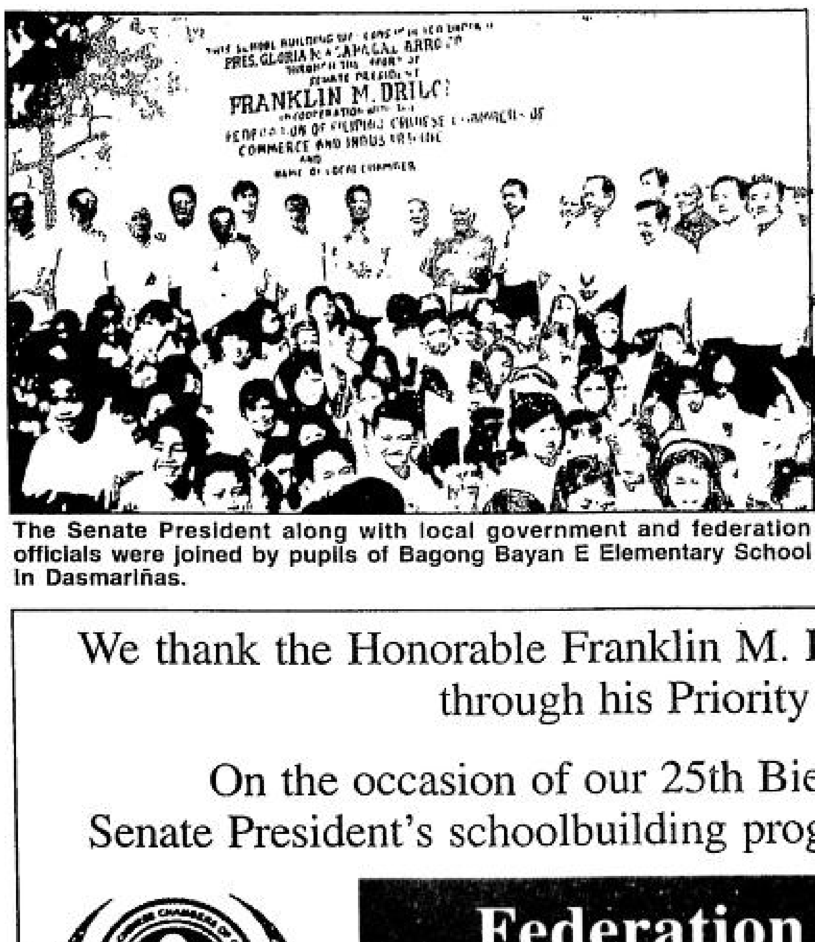
Jubilant pupils greet the Senate President when he visited the Bagong Bayan E Elementary School, one of the recipients of his school building project in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

Senate President Franklin Drilon and Francis Ng, former FFCCCII president, present the miniature model of the school building during the signing of the memorandum of agreement in May 2002.

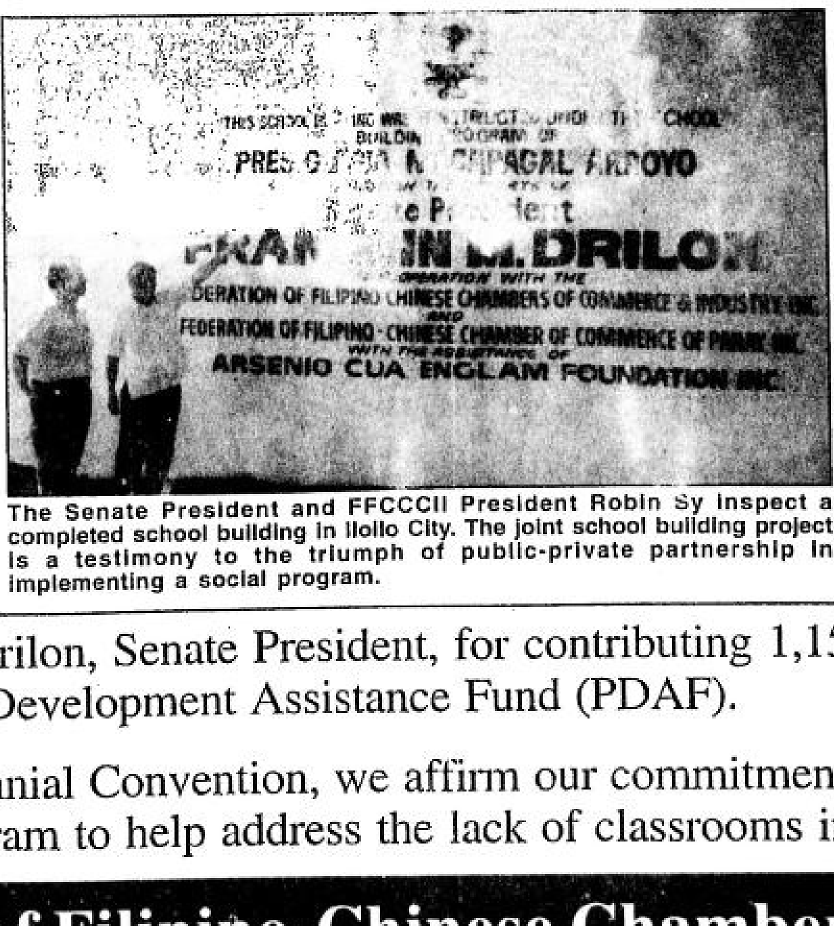
FFCCCII President Robin Sy and the Senate President cut the inaugural ribbon of the 3000th school building donated under the "Operation Barrio Schools" as business tycoon Lucio Tan, Francis Chua and Gov. Ayong Maliksi look on.

FRANKLIN M. DRILON

The standard duplex-type school building measures 7x14 square meters. It is a concrete structure with steel beams and GI roof.



The Senate President along with local government and federation officials were joined by pupils of Bagong Bayan E Elementary School in Dasmariñas.


PRES. GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
DRILON
ARSENIO CUA ENGLAM FOUNDATION INC.

The Senate President and FFCCCII President Robin Sy inspect a completed school building in Iloilo City. The joint school building project is a testimony to the triumph of public-private partnership in implementing a social program.

We thank the Honorable Franklin M. Drilon, Senate President, for contributing 1,150 classrooms through his Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF).

On the occasion of our 25th Biennial Convention, we affirm our commitment to the Senate President's schoolbuilding program to help address the lack of classrooms in the country.

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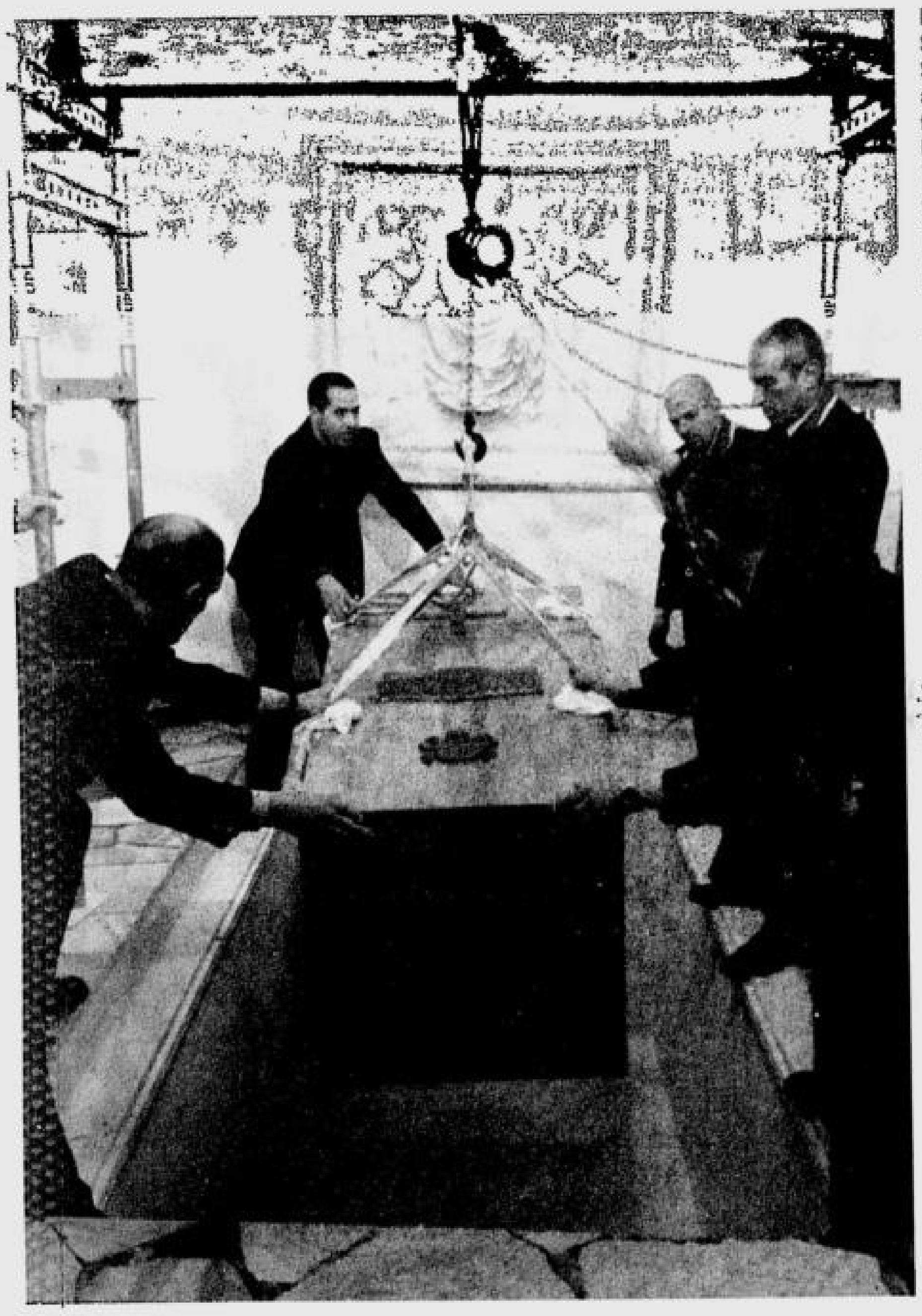

LONGTIME PRIVATE SECRETARY Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz (above) places a white silk veil over the Pope's face assisted by the master of the liturgical ceremonies, Archbishop Piero Marini, before the unadorned cypress coffin was sealed. A brief history of his life and coins minted during his papacy were also placed next to his body. The third coffin made of walnut (below) is lowered into the crypt below St. Peter's Basilica to join the remains of popes from centuries past near the tomb of the first pope, the apostle Peter. Zinc (above right) encloses the first coffin made of cypress. On it are the symbol of the papacy and a plaque containing his name and the date of his death. REUTERS/OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Italians want papacy back

From page A1

conspiracy in the Church to hide doctrinally controversial teachings about Jesus Christ.

But the field is wide open, Vatican observers say.

"It is all up to the Holy Spirit," said Stooke.

Several non-Italians have been mentioned, such as Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, who was seen by millions around the world as the principal celebrant of the burial Mass for John Paul II.

Traditional direction

Ratzinger, if elected, will provide continuity to the largely traditional doctrinal direction enunciated by John Paul II during his long reign, observers said.

Other possible non-Italian contenders are Cardinal Francis Arinze of Nigeria, Cardinal Oscar Andres Maradiaga of Honduras, Cardinal Claudio Hummes of Sao Paolo, Brazil, and Cardinal Christoph Schonborn of Austria.

The only Filipino cardinal who will take part in the conclave, Cebu's Archbishop Ricardo Vidal, is low-key and relatively unknown when compared to the more media-savvy but retired Cardinal Jaime Sin.

The ailing former Manila archbishop can still vote for and can even become pope but Sin is too sick to join the conclave.

But he can be voted pope even if he's not present at the conclave.

The other Filipino cardinal, Cardinal Jose Sanchez, a former curia official who is already 84, cannot vote because of the rule that only cardinals below 80 can take part in the voting.

'Global' pope

The new pope, according to Rome-based clerics and religious, should be like Pope John Paul II: a globetrotting pontiff with an appreciation of world issues particularly engaged in Asia to reflect the Church's "catholic" or universal character.

Typical of how "global" is widely if sometimes disparately interpreted, Filipinos here see it as meaning basically "pro-immigration."

The Filipino clergy here believes the Church needs such a "global" pope, like John Paul II, and not a mere manager or administrator.

Under Pope John Paul II, the Church had campaigned for the relaxation of Italian immigration policies. Some Italian prelates openly lobbied for immigration amnesty "for Filipinos and Latin Americans," said George Weigel, the papal biographer.

There are 90,000 documented Filipinos in Italy alone, according to the Centro Filipino, the Filipino community group in Rome.

OFW's as missionaries

There's an evangelical dimension to the Filipinos' wish for a "pro-immigration" Pope.

Zamboanga Archbishop Fernando Capalla, the president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines who celebrated Mass for Filipino migrant workers last Thursday, said the late Pope had seen the Filipino migrant workers around the world as a new apostolic force.

"The Pope called the Filipino migrant workers as the new missionaries," Capalla said. "Filipinos working abroad will carry out the missionary task."

In fact, Capalla urged Filipinos in Italy to "get involved in the affairs of the local church," meaning the churches in Europe. "The churches here [in Europe] are not getting too many churchgoers," he said.

Germany's top Catholic bishop also said no clear frontrunner had emerged to succeed John Paul II.

"As far as I can see, there are no clear favorites and probably no firmly fixed alliances," Cardinal Karl Lehmann, chair of the German Catholic bishops conference, told the Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz in an interview on Saturday.

"We will have to move towards a consensus through agreements, contacts and talks," he said.

"The cardinals have time before the conclave to get to know each other better. We shouldn't forget that the large number of electors, about half of whom have only been appointed since 2001, makes this especially necessary," he said.

The more than 100 cardinals due to elect a new pope will have the opportunity over the coming week to swap views on possible candidates before they formally meet in a closed session beginning on April 18.

"First of all, we need a credible, convinced and convincing successor to Saint Peter who will also be measured against John Paul II," said Lehmann, who will be taking part in the conclave.

Political problems

"But not in the sense of a copy. Skin color, origin and certain other issues that have been mentioned will be of very little importance in this," he said.

Lehmann said the next pope would face political problems in China and Africa as well as the challenge of the erosion of belief in traditional Catholic heartlands such as Spain, Ireland and Latin America.

But he said that structural reforms of the church would not be his main priority.

"There should be no false diversion from the 'enduring' center of faith in its meaning for every Christian. The last few days have shown what is important," he said.

"Reforms may still be necessary but they are only for setting the framework, they may even be just crutches." *With a report from Reuters*

Wanted: Mystic pope who can turn on the young

From page A1

Maryknoll Sr. Helen Graham, who has taught theology for more than 30 years and who risked the ire of the Marcos dictatorship, describes John Paul II's deeds as "undeniably great."

But she explains why she wants more from the next pope: "As a woman trained in theology and scripture who lived through the exhilarating days of Vatican II, I have experienced John Paul II's pontificate as one that moved away from the gains of that council in many ways.

"I have been saddened by the unwillingness to use inclusive language in the liturgy, the opposition to even discussing the issue of women's ordination, the stifling of imaginative theological thinking, and the inability to make any change whatsoever in reproductive issues that profoundly affect the lives of women."

Continuity, discontinuity

"The next pope will have to bring about continuity and discontinuity," says Fr. Percy Bacani of the Missionaries of Jesus, who teaches theology and is a much sought after retreat director.

"Continuity means pursuing the social agenda, especially John Paul II's call to solidarity with the poor and marginalized, fighting together with them to create a more just and caring society," he says, adding:

"It also means pursuing the imperative of interreligious dialogue. This is urgent in the context of pluralism or recognition of multicultural and religious differences and the common quest for eco-well-being. The present form of globalization is anti-poor and anti-earth."

Discontinuity means "visioning a different path on other core issues facing the Church," Bacani says.

The new pope has to "open more spaces for women and for the local churches," he observes. "Women have to become full citizens of the Church and not remain anchored by so-called 'feminine' qualities, which basically translate to subordination to male dominance."

'Browning of the faith'

Both Bacani and Dr. Jose de Mesa, author and lay professor of applied systematic theology at De La Salle University-Manila, have inculturation, or "the browning of the faith," high on their papal agenda.

"Inculturation implies the local community of believers—laity, religious and clerics, all equal in dignity and responsibility—together taking a pro-active stance in devising ways and means to ensure the impact of the Gospel on the local while cognizant of the global context," De Mesa says.

In concrete terms, this means using the wisdom and genius of local culture, deciding how ministry is to be carried out and by whom, and how local liturgy is to be celebrated, structuring participation, and devising pastoral approaches and solutions.

The Jesus ethos

"How can people be Christian, in the sense of being followers of Jesus, if there is no familiarity with the ethos of Jesus as shown in the gospels?" says Sr. Amelia Vasquez of the Religious of the Sacred Heart.

Vasquez studied comparative religion and the history of Christianity at Harvard University and is involved in the training of men and women religious of the Philippines and Asia.

"It is a tremendous task for the next pope to have to forge ahead because the billions of Catholics around the globe are not even aware of the basic orientation provided by the scriptures for the life of the Church," Vasquez says.

She says the task of any pope is "to help the community be more and more conformed to the model of Jesus of Nazareth through the inspiration of the Spirit."

"As Jesus was, so should the Church be," Vasquez says. "I would like to see [the next pope] taking bold means to acquire governance of the Church that, in structure and actual practice, is transparent and genuinely participative, humble, less ambiguous in its solidarity with the poor, and accepting of the equal dignity of all within the Church, because we are equal in worth as children of God."

This, Vasquez adds, already exists in many small groups in Philippine and Asian churches. She hopes that it becomes the norm everywhere and at all levels.

Below the equator

Arevalo also takes up this issue.

"The most important role of the pope today has to do with embodying, for the world to see, the Good News that is Jesus and the Gospel of Jesus. The pope has to embody Jesus in today's world, especially in the developing world below the equator. He must tell the world of God's love, because therein lies hope for the human family, and hope for each and all of us," Arevalo says.

He wishes for the new pope "to, above all, have a true and caring love for the poor and the young, with a true 'Third World sensitivity.'"

He adds: "Communism has been tried, and it failed. John Paul II made this judgment from the European experience.

"New global capitalism must be confronted—all its dehumanizing values, the new kind of oppression and exploitation of poor countries, the profit-oriented indifference toward human dignity, human rights..."

Mystic

Arevalo likewise gives importance to interreligious dialogue, which John Paul II pursued vigorously.

"It has begun," he says. "But we must go forward more creatively in the areas of interiority and prayer. The next pope must be truly a mystic, as John Paul II was."

Arevalo points out that John Paul II personified faith and conviction: "He was a person of deep prayer. You will be surprised how even young people were turned on by that."

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KASHMIRI women look out from their window at a family from Pakistan-administered Kashmir arriving in Srinagar, the summer capital of Indian-administered Kashmir, April 8, after taking a bus from Muzaffarabad. REUTERS

Marburg virus in Angola worse than Ebola, says UN

LUANDA—The outbreak of the deadly Marburg virus in Angola is worse than Ebola, a UN disease expert said Friday, as the world body launched an urgent appeal for funds to fight the fever which has claimed 180 lives.

"Marburg is a very bad hemorrhagic fever, even worse than Ebola," said Allarangar Yokouibd from the UN World Health Organisation (WHO).

"We have had several Ebola epidemics in the region but none with such a high mortality rate," he told reporters at a press conference in Luanda.

In Geneva, the WHO said the world's worst-ever outbreak of the virus was not yet under control.

Mike Ryan, head of the WHO's emergency response unit, said international agencies and local health authorities must remain firmly engaged in Angola for the next four to six weeks, adding that the situation "now in Angola is not under control yet." The world body on Friday launched an emergency appeal for 3.5 million dollars (2.7 million euros) to "intensify the fight" against the outbreak which "was the largest ever recorded and still growing." "The appeal for 3.5 million dollars will enable UN agencies, including the WHO, UNICEF and the WFP to support the Angolan government intensifying outbreak control efforts," said the UN's resident coordinator in Angola, Pierre-Francois Pirlot.

"It is clear that this epidemic is unprecedented not only in Angola, but everywhere. It is the biggest epidemic of hemorrhagic fever so far," he said.

Most of the victims come from the northern town of Uige, the epicentre of the outbreak some 300 kilometres (180 miles) north of the seaboard capital Luanda. Some 200 cases had been reported since it first surfaced in October.

"The victims included nine health workers, seven nurses and two doctors," said Angolan vice health minister Jose Van Dunem.

Fear has gripped the capital and the country of 14 million people, which emerged three years ago from a brutal 27-year civil war.

The Ebola-like Marburg virus, whose exact origin is unknown, spreads through contact with bodily fluids such as blood, excrement, vomit and saliva, but can be contained with relatively simple health precautions, according to experts.

Yokouibd told reporters that the disease "was transmitted through contact with all bodily fluids which also included sweat and tears if you touch a sick person," but he stressed that it was "not an airborne disease." He said the worst-ever outbreak of Ebola, in the same family as Marburg, was in Uganda where some 404 cases were reported at the end of the outbreak.

"We had several epidemics of Ebola in the region but none of which had such a high mortality rate," said Yokouibd. "It's worse than for example in Uganda." There was another Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo, with "only 144 cases" and another in Gabon, with 100 cases. *AFP*

Shiites march to protest US presence in Iraq

BAGHDAD—Thousands of followers of rebel Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr marched in Baghdad on Saturday to denounce the US presence in Iraq and demand a speedy trial of Saddam Hussein on the second anniversary of his downfall.

Chanting "No, no to the occupiers," several thousand men streamed from the poor Shiite district of Sadr City to Firdos Square in central Baghdad where Saddam's statue was famously torn down two years ago, in a peaceful show of strength.

The square and side streets were quickly packed with crowds waving Iraqi flags and brandishing effigies of Saddam, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and US President George W. Bush. "No America! No Saddam! Yes to Islam!" many chanted. One group of demonstrators burned an American flag.

Iraqi security forces shut down central Baghdad ahead of the march and were watching proceedings closely. US forces were keeping a distance. Most of the protesters were searched by police for weapons before reaching the square.

"I came from Sadr City to demand a timetable for the withdrawal of the occupation," said Abbas, a young, bearded protester sitting on the grass in the square. "Every Iraqi has a right to demand his freedom. The Americans wanted time and we gave them time, now we want to rule ourselves." Sunni Muslims, many of whom also strongly oppose US forces, were expected to join the demonstration, the Muslim Clerics' Association, an influential Sunni body, said. *Reuters*

Kashmiris hope historic bus service takes road to peace

SRINAGAR, India—Kashmiris hailed on Friday a historic bus service between Indian and Pakistani Kashmir as a concrete step towards resolving the vexed territorial dispute and said militant separatists should not be allowed to disrupt it.

Analysts praised India and Pakistan for what they said was the determination of the nuclear-armed rivals to go ahead with the bus launch on Thursday, the first to connect the two Kashmirs in nearly 60 years, despite threats from militants.

But they said New Delhi and Islamabad—who have fought two wars over Kashmir—still had a long way to go to untie the Kashmir knot, as they had yet to show much inclination to move from entrenched diplomatic positions despite the hype and celebrations over the transport link.

"I was crying with joy when I saw television pictures of the bus crossing over to this side," Pakiza Carrim, 25, a sociology student at a university in Srinagar, the main city of Indian Kashmir, said. "Kashmiris have won half of the battle." "Now, it is the sincerity of the two countries that will make a difference to the future of Kashmir. I wish this bus runs daily," she said, a day after the first fortnightly service rolled into Srinagar from across a military ceasefire line.

Nineteen Indian Kashmiris, mostly elderly, on Thursday defied separatist threats and crossed a "Peace Bridge" across a military line that divided them for more than half a century, hours after 31 Pakistanis walked into the Indian side for an emotional reunion with relatives.

Srinagar and Muzaffarabad, capital of Pakistani Kashmir, erupted into spontaneous celebrations as the first passengers broke down with joy over seeing their dear ones, many of them for the first time.

"It is a great step towards peace," said Adbul Hamid Bhat, a businessman in Srinagar. "Kashmir is a more than 50-year problem and things will not change overnight. Some elements will oppose it for their vested interests but let's go ahead." Newspapers in India and Pakistan were also upbeat.

"The determination shown by India and Pakistan to go ahead with the bus service in the face of terrorism is praiseworthy," Pakistani daily The News said in an editorial on Friday.

"It will send an unambiguous message to the shadowy groups that there will be no bowing to terrorism."

A day before the service was launched, militants fighting against Indian rule in the Himalayan region staged a suicide attack on a heavily guarded government complex sheltering the Indian passengers, torching the building.

None of the passengers were injured but five pulled out subsequently.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said the bus had opened a door and it was the beginning of a new phase for Kashmir.

Singh, who flagged off the bus, is due to hold talks with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf in New Delhi this month to boost a slow peace process between the neighbors. *Reuters*

Princess Caroline's hubby remains in intensive care

MONACO—The husband of Princess Caroline of Monaco, Prince Ernst August of Hanover, on Saturday remained in intensive care in a Monaco hospital suffering from an inflamed pancreas, even as the mini-state prepared to bury his father-in-law Prince Rainier.

"He is still in intensive care in the Princess Grace hospital. There has been no change since yesterday," a member of his entourage said.

The German prince, 51, was rushed into hospital with acute pancreatitis early Tuesday, the day before Rainier's death.

Ernst August is Princess Caroline's third husband. They married in 1999 and have a daughter, Alexandra.

Monaco went into mourning on Wednesday after the death of Prince Rainier, 81, who ruled the tiny Mediterranean principality for more than 55 years. His funeral is set for next Friday.

For Caroline, her husband's hospitalization while she mourns for her father has become part of the life of drama and death she has endured. Her mother Princess Grace, the American movie star, and her second husband, Italian industralist Stefano Casiraghi, were both victims of fatal accidents. *AFP*

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350 armed militiamen destroy Darfur village in new atrocity

UNITED NATIONS—More than 350 militiamen destroyed a village in Sudan's conflict-wracked Darfur region in the worst attack since January, the United Nations and the African Union said.

A joint statement issued Friday by the top UN envoy in Sudan, Jan Pronk, and the top AU envoy, Baba Gana Kingibe said the names of the militia leader and his known collaborators will be turned over for possible UN sanctions and prosecution by the International Criminal Court.

The two organizations expressed "utter shock and disbelief" at Thursday's daylong attack on the South Darfur village of Khor Abeche by armed militia from the Miseriyya tribe of Niteaga under the command of Nasir Al Tijani Adel Kaadir.

Last Thursday, the Security Council also voted to refer cases of alleged rape, murder, village burnings and other atrocities to the International Criminal Court, the world's first permanent war crimes tribunal. On Tuesday, the UN handed prosecutors from the tribunal thousands of documents and a sealed list of 51 people to be investigated for alleged war crimes in Darfur.

Al Tijani is the first Sudanese publicly identified as a possible war crimes suspect.

According to the statement, more than 200 of Al Tijani's militiamen, reinforced by 150 additional fighters from Niteaga, "rampaged through the village killing, burning and destroying everything in heir paths and leaving in their wake total destruction with only the mosque and the school spared."

The statement did not give any casualty figures but said the attack was the most savage since the sacking of the South Darfur village of Hamada in January which killed about 100 people.

It was apparently in retaliation for the alleged theft of 150 cattle whose tracks were supposedly traced to Khor Abeche.

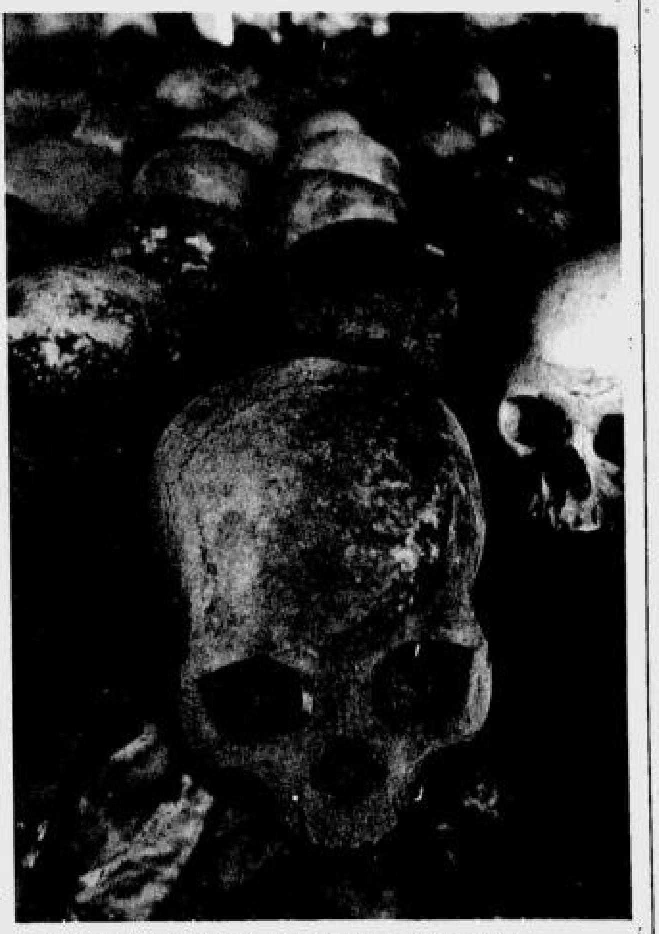
The UN and the AU condemned the "senseless and premeditated savage attack" and said the destruction of Khor Abeche not only violated ceasefire agreements but Security Council resolutions calling for an end to fighting and demanding that the perpetrators of such attacks no longer enjoy impunity and are brought to justice.

The vast western Sudanese region of Darfur is the scene of one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. An estimated 180,000 people have died in the upheaval—many from hunger and disease—and about 2 million others have been displaced since the conflict began in February 2003.

It erupted when rebels took up arms against what they saw as years of state neglect and discrimination against Sudanese of African origin. The government is accused of responding with a counterinsurgency campaign in which the Arab Janjaweed militia committed wide-scale abuses against the African population.

The AU has 3,000 soldiers and observers in Darfur monitoring a ceasefire which has been repeatedly broken.

AP



STRANGELY POPULAR WITH TOURISTS
More than 8,000 human skulls lay in a shrine at the Choeung Ek Killing Fields Genocidal Museum on the outskirts of Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The site, which is popular with tourists, has more than 80 mass graves that are yet to be opened. Under the rule of the Khmer Rouge led by Pol Pot, more than 1.7 million Cambodian were murdered, starved or worked to death. AP

China protesters attack Japan embassy in Beijing

BEIJING—Thousands of Chinese smashed windows and threw rocks at the Japanese embassy and ambassador's residence in Beijing on Saturday in a protest against Japan's wartime past and bid for a seat on the UN Security Council.

Protesters pushed their way through a paramilitary police cordon to the gates of the residence of the Japanese ambassador, throwing rocks and water bottles and shouting "Japanese pig come out." Some 500 paramilitary police holding plastic shields raced into the compound and barricaded the gates, a Reuters witness said. Protesters threw stones and bricks at the residence, and shouted at police, "Chinese people shouldn't protect Japanese." Demonstrators, who said they had been organized mostly through e-mail and instant messaging, had been marching peacefully under heavy police guard at various places in the capital. One group began throwing bottles and stones when they passed a Japanese restaurant, smashing windows with tiles they had ripped from its roof before police stopped them.

Protesters also attacked a Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi branch and smashed windows before police moved in.

Another group outside the embassy in southeast Beijing threw stones and plastic water bottles, smashing windows in the compound, a Reuters photographer said. Some demonstrators scuffled with police.

But by late afternoon most of the crowd at the embassy had dispersed, persuaded by police to board waiting buses to take them home.

Anti-Japanese sentiment has been running high in China since Japan on Tuesday approved a school textbook critics say whitewashes atrocities committed during World War II, and many Chinese feel the country has not owned up to its wartime aggression.

Reuters

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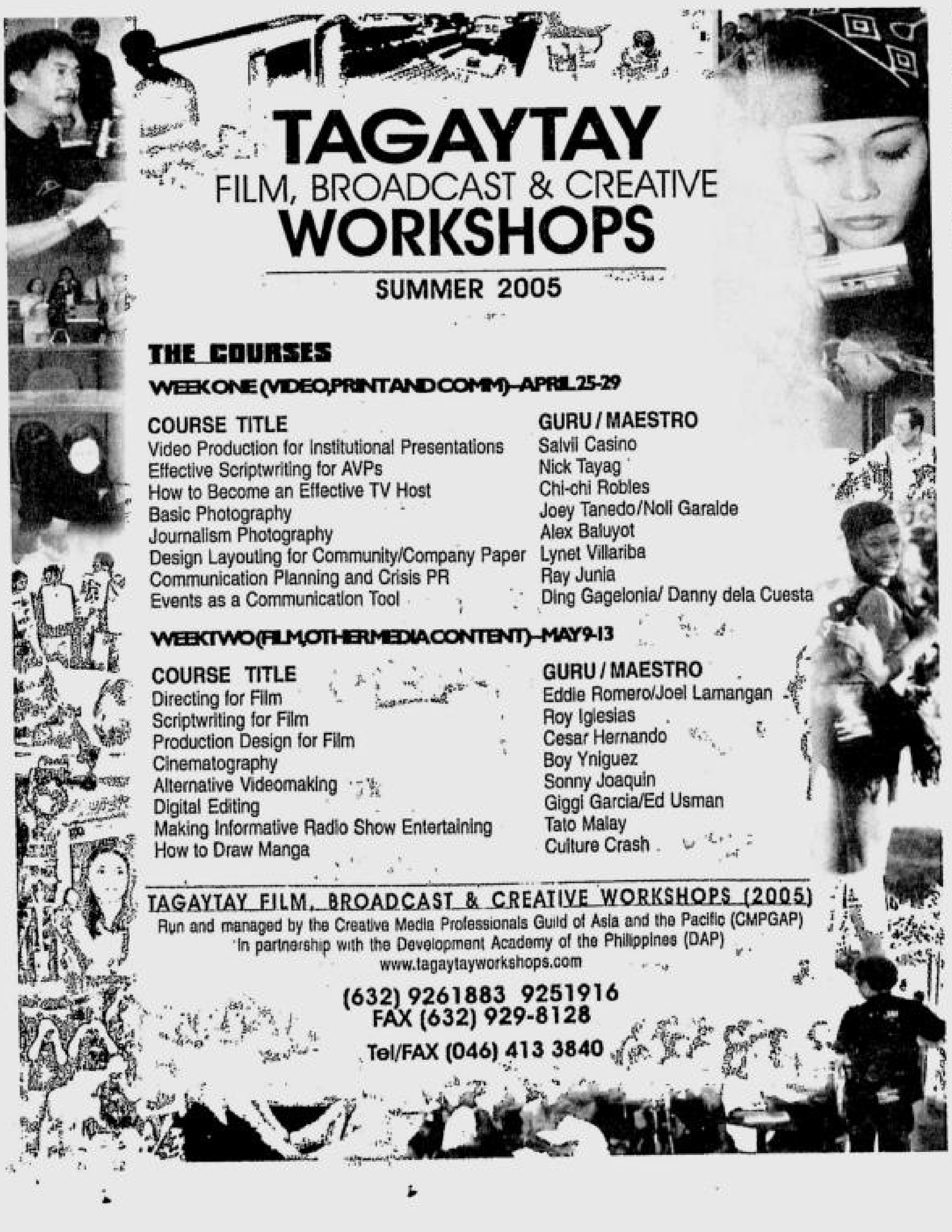

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Jacko fondled Macaulay Culkin, chef says

SANTA MARIA, California, April 8—Michael Jackson's former chef testified Friday that he saw the pop icon fondle then-child movie star Macaulay Culkin, with his hand inside the boy's shorts.

The bombshell account from French chef Phillip Lemarque capped a week of lurid testimony, including from an alleged child sex victim and from former employees who claim they caught the superstar in compromising positions with young boys.

Lemarque told jurors he was shocked to see Jackson fondling "Home Alone" star Culkin, who was then 10 or 11, when he brought them French fries in the video game arcade of the fantasy-themed estate in California in 1991.

"Michael was playing with Macaulay Culkin at one of the games," he said, explaining that the singer was holding up the young actor, who was too short to reach the controls.

"His left hand was inside the pants of the kid," he said. "It was in the crotch area," the chef said as Jackson looked on impassively from the defendant's table in the Santa Maria, California court.

"I was shocked, I almost dropped the French fries," he said.

Culkin, now 24, has denied he was ever abused by Jackson and has said he has no intention of testifying against him at the trial.

Jackson is on trial for allegedly molesting a 13-year-old cancer survivor at Neverland in early 2003, but jurors have heard of five earlier child-sex allegations against the star, which prosecutors claim demonstrate a pattern of behavior.

Prosecutors insist that one of those victims was Culkin, despite the young actor's denial that there was any inappropriate conduct by Jackson.

AFP

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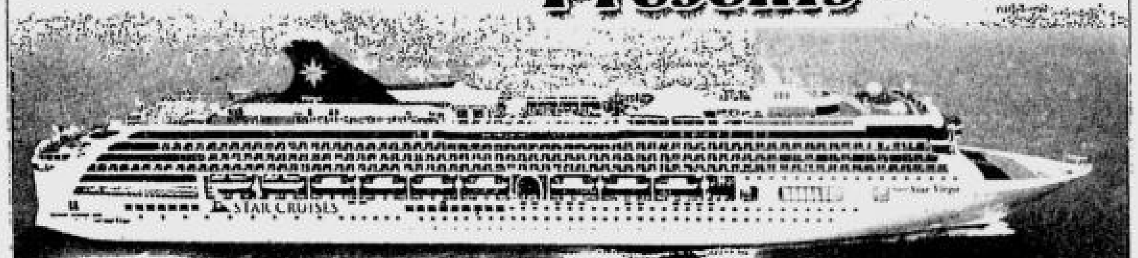

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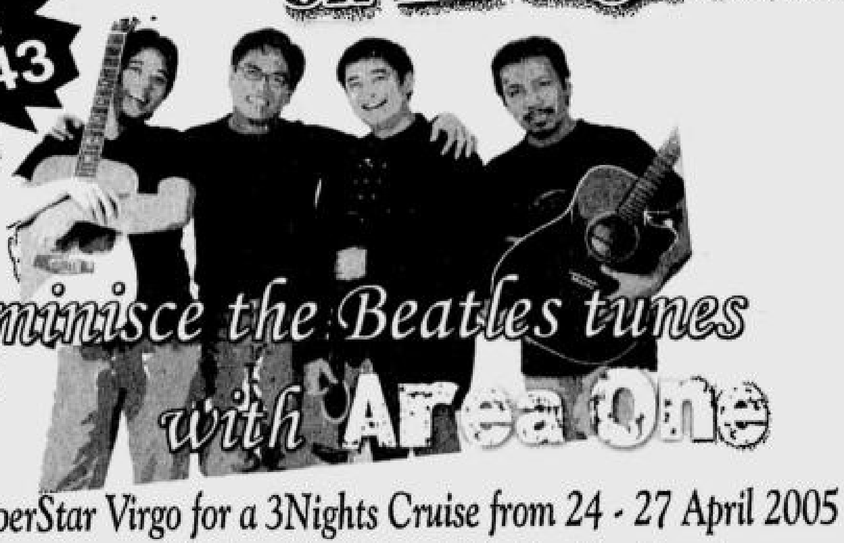

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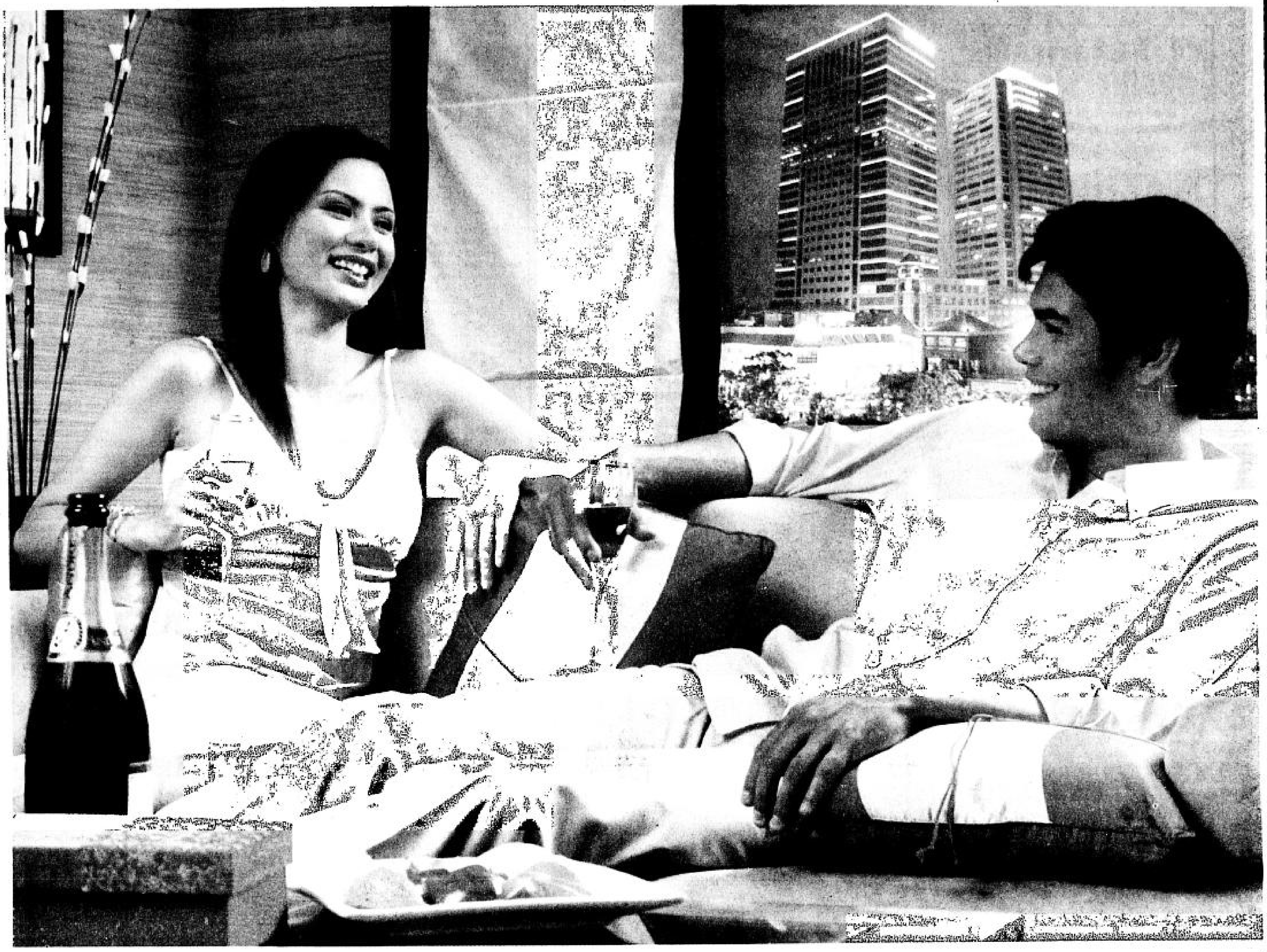

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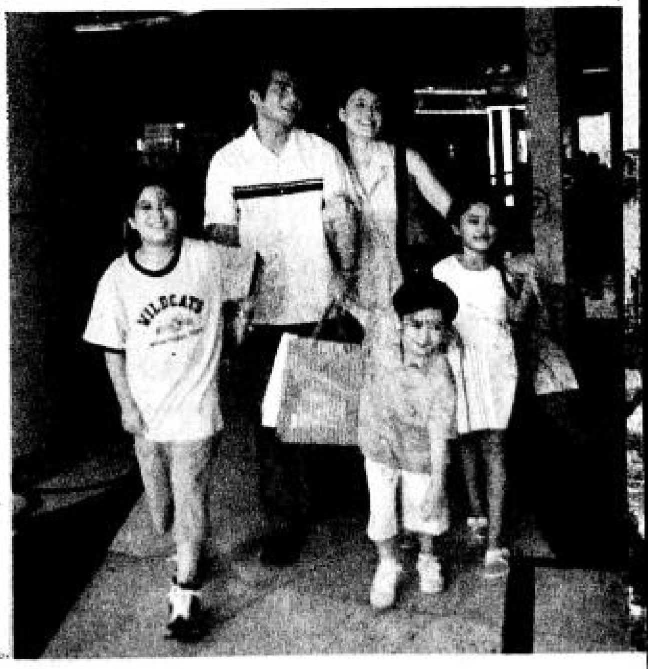

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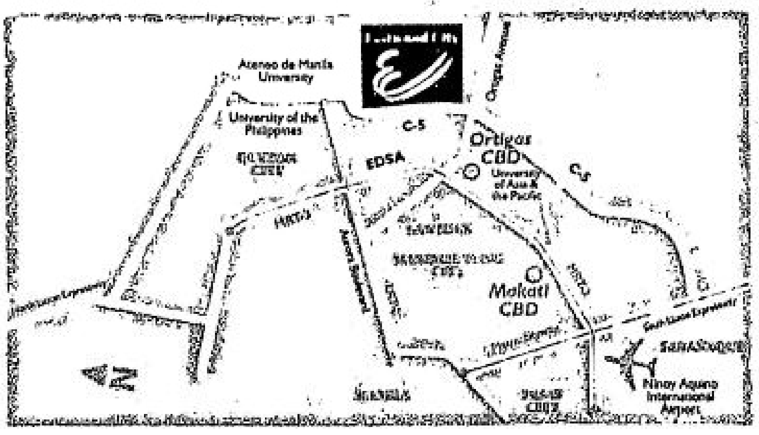
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OPINION

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EDITORIALS

A success story

ON TUESDAY, April 5, a Belgian delegate to the Inter-Parliamentary Union general assembly being held at the Philippine International Convention Center was robbed of P4,000 and $60 by the tricycle driver he had hailed to bring him to early morning Mass.

On Friday, April 8, a Pasay City Regional Trial Court found the driver, Victorio Mallari, guilty of robbery and slight physical injuries, and sentenced him to at least four years and 20 days in prison. His victim, Georges Brion, the assistant secretary general of the parliament of Belgium, testified in the morning, and was in the courtroom when the decision was read in the afternoon.

Case swiftly closed.

Mallari's criminal act had the potential to turn into a lasting diplomatic embarrassment for the Philippines, which hosted the IPU general assembly for the first time. Brion, after all, was only going to Mass, and was only thinking of doing in the Philippines what many Filipinos do all the time: take a tricycle to the nearest church.

What was done to him on early Tuesday morning was clearly unconscionable: Filipinos had not only robbed a foreign guest; they had victimized someone who was in fact seeking their help.

The police's speedy reaction and Judge Pedro Corales' dispatch have helped stopped potential from turning into shameful reality. And Brion has the satisfaction of returning to Belgium knowing that justice has been served, and that he had done the decent thing: cooperating fully in the legal process, but at the same time refusing to blame anyone else but the criminals for the crime.

On Tuesday morning, after Brion reported the incident, the Philippine National Police immediately launched what in its jargon is called a saturation drive. Scores of officers descended on tricycle stations in the area where the robbery took place, eventually rounding up 15 suspects who seemed to fit Brion's description of his driver. But Mallari was not among them.

The PNP, however, had also put its network of police informants in the area to good use. One of them heard Mallari boast about his early Tuesday morning exploit, and pointed him out to the police. Mallari was arrested on Wednesday.

On Friday morning, he was arraigned at RTC Branch 118, and his trial commenced. While he entered a plea of not guilty, he did previously admit that he had indeed robbed Brion, by bringing the tricycle to a side street near the Pasay City Hall. But he said it was a certain "Jess" who had injured Brion with a knife, and who actually kept the money. ("Jess" is still at large.)

Mallari was found guilty based on the "positive identification" Brion made, and the testimony of a police officer who explained to the court how the PNP had traced the crime to the tricycle driver.

From crime to conviction in four days: This must be a new and welcome record in the administration of justice.

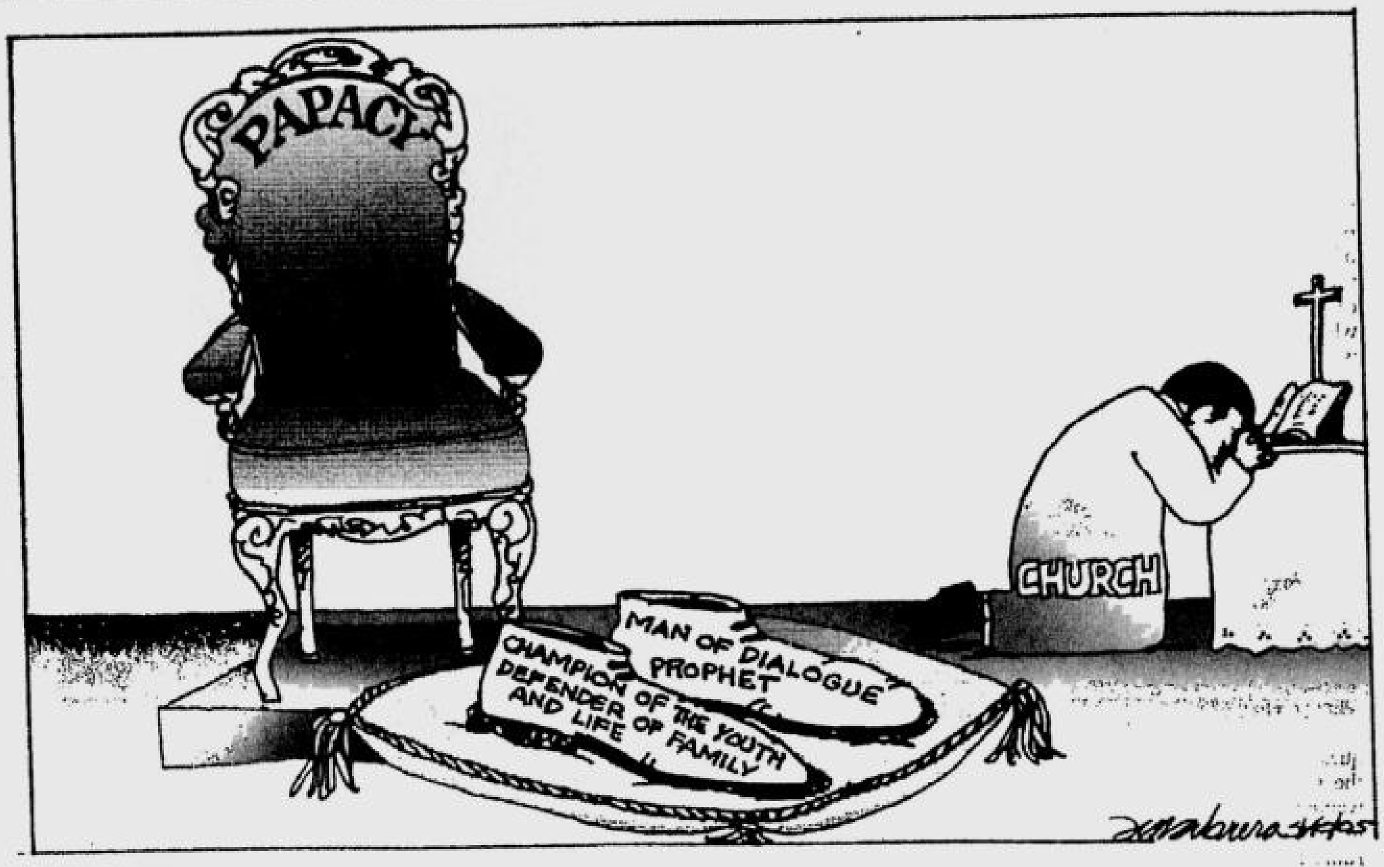
A cautionary tale

THE SWIFT action on the Georges Brion case inspires praise, not surprisingly in a country where the wheels of justice grind exceedingly slow. But at the same time, it also raises concerns, precisely because the rusted wheels did not merely move; they lurched.

We note that the tricycle driver Victorio Mallari was convicted based on a positive identification by the victim and comprehensive testimony from the police. Even if we discount Mallari's confession (as a simple precaution, knowing that the police can sometimes be extraordinarily persuasive), there is still the fact that Brion, the Belgian delegate to the IPU, identified Mallari after being shown 15 other suspects.

And yet, even if everything were in order, the swift and successful prosecution of the case would still raise concerns. If the victim were not a senior politician attending a major international conference, would the police have responded with the same vigor? Would the Department of Justice, through its city prosecutors, have acted with the same dispatch? Would the judge have readjusted his schedule and written his decision with the same urgency?

It is truly a sad commentary on the times when an ostensible triumph of justice, such as the Brion case, throws an unflattering light on the thousands of other cases that clog up the courts' dockets. If justice can be served swiftly, why can't it be done regularly, as a matter of course?



The right to die

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE TRAGIC story of Terri Schiavo is over; she died last week while the world was still pondering her fate. She suffered a heart attack 15 years ago that left her in a persistent vegetative state that kept her alive only through a life-sustaining tube. Her husband, as her legal guardian, asked the courts for permission to remove the tube in accordance, he said, with her own wish. Her parents objected, claiming that their daughter manifested to them her will to live in hopes of her eventual recovery.

The husband was consistently sustained in this legal battle. The decisions of the courts of Florida, up to its Supreme Court, based on medical reports and on his representations as his wife's legal guardian, were all in his favor. President George W. Bush himself led in the enactment of a special law allowing the parents to appeal to the federal courts. But even with this extraordinary measure they failed. They lost twice in a federal district court, three times before a district appeals court, and six times before the US Supreme Court.

If the high court had chosen to accept the case, serious constitutional questions might have been raised, including separation of powers, federal rights versus state rights, the right to live as asserted by Terri's parents, and the liberty to die as invoked by her husband. But the justices simply refused to intervene, upholding the jurisdiction of the courts below and assuming the correctness of their rulings.

I sympathize with the parents for their determination to keep their daughter alive, but it was against all the findings of the doctors as sustained by the courts. The courts were right to rely on the medical evidence that there was no hope of Terri recovering from her present state and living a normal life. Many believed that the parents' efforts to keep the helpless patient alive were based on mere sentimentality and, some said, even inhumane.

There are those who argued about the sacredness of life and said that it was only God who could end it. Even the Vatican expressed a similar sentiment. But the courts were not swayed by these philosophical and moral persuasions, preferring instead to stick only to the mandate of the law as they read it. The parents' protestations that Terri could communicate with them did not conform to the cold medical findings and, although not intentionally false, were probably the result of mere hopeful imagination.

Some people even pointed to some alleged shortcomings in the husband's life, but these too were considered irrelevant to the issue of whether Terri Schiavo had the right to live or the right to die. Good or bad, the husband's conduct was not the gauge of his helpless wife's fate. The sole issue, given her medical condition as analyzed by reputable and competent physicians, was whether Terri Schiavo might still awake and begin to truly live again or was doomed to simply exist by grace of the feeding tube.

In my own unsolicited opinion, the most important consideration in this case was the quality of life the hospice was sustaining for the unfortunate and I might also imagine reluctant woman.

She was alive, but only from the medical viewpoint. In all other respects, she was only existing. She was breathing and performing some bodily functions, but she was not living like a healthy and normal individual. Flowers breathe and whales and spiders too, but they do not live as human beings do.

Life, it has been said, should not be dwarfed into mere animal existence. The word, as protected by the due process clause, embraces the enjoyment by every human being of all the God-given faculties that can make life worth living. Included in this guaranty are the right to give full rein to all the person's natural attributes, to expand the horizons of his mind, to widen the reach of his capabilities, to enhance those moral and spiritual values that can give life its meaning and rewards, like the flight of birds and the flights of fancy.

It should permit, at the very least, the enjoyment of the laughter of little children. But even that Terri Schiavo could not savor as she lay captive and unfeeling in her hospice bed.

If I should suffer such a cruel condition as hers, I would not want to live a minute longer. There should be no doubt about my living will on this matter. I have told my wife and all my children about this wish, and I know they all love me enough to respect my last request.

My graduation thesis in 1951 was "The Legality of Mercy Killing" that Justice Alejo Labrador recommended for publication. I related there that at a medical convention in the United States, doctors who had not practiced euthanasia were asked to raise their hand. Nobody did. Yet the act then was, as it is still now, illegal. The conclusion of my study was that "mercy killing, being neither immoral nor unethical but on the contrary necessary, should be legalized, with proper safeguards."

The debate continues. It will not be resolved with the death of Terri Schiavo.

In our midst

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

DOCTOR: How do you like the hearing aid?
Patient: Fine.
Doctor: How does your family like it?
Patient: I haven't told them yet, but I have changed my will three times already.

* * *

In today's Gospel (Lk. 24, 13-35), Jesus drew near and walked with the two disciples discussing and debating about all the things that have occurred on their way to Emmaus. He was on their midst, but they failed to recognize Him. Why? Because they were so focused on their own grief, fears, maybe, even doubts. Yes, He is in us and in our midst, but we often fail to recognize and acknowledge Him.

* * *

It is interesting to note that the two disciples did not recognize the Lord while they were discussing and debating along the way. But when they sat at the table with Him, their eyes were opened and they recognized Him. We need quiet time so that we can recognize the Lord in our hearts and in our midst. Is your appointment with the Lord only an incidental appendage or, perhaps, a last-minute hindsight in your busy day?

* * *

"Were not our hearts burning?" This phrase best describes every encounter with Pope John Paul II. A lot, as in a lot, has been said and will still be said about our beloved Pope JPII. Allow me to say three things more. First, JPII was a man who prayed much. He drew strength from prayers. He spent at least three hours before the Blessed Sacrament every day. To us, he was a Pope, but to God, he was a vicar servant, and to the Blessed Mother, he was a son. It was prayer that made him constantly aware of who he was and what he should be. He humbled himself before God in prayer, that's why he was able to bring God everywhere. Do you pray? Do you really pray?

* * *

JP II was a man who worked much. His vigor was amazing and his zeal for the Lord's work was so edifying. No pope traveled as much as he did, reaching out to so many, and bringing God in so many issues confronting humanity. Even in his last days, he was reaching out to the world that needed unity and peace. He was tenacious in his mission even if it meant at times being unpopular. Are you busy with the Lord's agenda in your life?

* * *

JPII was a man who loved much. He exuded love in everything he did, everywhere he went. His loving and his service were neither a show nor a put on. He was not one who went for the money, or for the show. He went for love every step of the way. He had a heart that burned with love. He told the world what he thought was right, and he did it all because of love. Still wonder how one person could be so loved in life and in death? That was because he loved much. Is there enough love in your life? Are you all just money, money and everything nice?

* * *

I consider it a privilege to have lived in the lifetime of JPII, to have walked that stretch of the road to Emmaus with him; and indeed, our hearts burned with love while he was in our midst, and even now that he is out of our sight. He left behind no material possessions, but lots of respect, beautiful memories and love. (You, who are so engrossed with money, pleasures and power, please read again the line I just wrote!)

* * *

In his last will, he considered being buried in his beloved Poland, but left the final decision to the cardinals, remaining obedient to the Church till the end. "*Totus tuus ego sum*" (I am totally yours), his motto, sums up the total dedication and self-giving of a man who sacrificed much, and who loved much.

* * *

JPII was in our midst as a Pope for 26 years, and he reminded the world that God is alive, and that God is the Father of all. It is amazing that whatever evangelization and dialogue he left undone during his lifetime is now being completed in his death by the media all over the world. We dare say that his being a light, as one of God's shining saints in this our present day and time, will continue after his internment.

* * *

Let us pray that the 117 cardinals in conclave will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit to elect the next pope who will continue to bring God in our midst and to keep our hearts burning with love.

* * *

As we honor and cherish the memory of JPII, let us move on and keep in mind who and what he stood for. He was the Vicar of Christ. May we all follow Christ more closely. His message must lead us to greater dedication to life, family, lay empowerment, youth, inter-faith dialogue, social justice and peace. May his death bear fruit in each and everyone of us.

* * *

One of the last public appearances of JPII was during Easter Sunday when he stood before the crowd but could not speak anymore. What was he desperately trying to say? We will never really know. But knowing him and the life he lived, he was telling the world of His love, and his love. JPII, we will carry on Christ's work, and JPII, we love you too. Short was our encounter, but the memory will be forever.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to pray much, work much, and love much like Pope John Paul II to make you present in our midst. Amen.

'Peter Among Us'

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

PERHAPS, the finest book on Pope John Paul II is his biography "Witness to Hope" by George Weigel, a Roman Catholic theologian and a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center. In December 1995, over a roast chicken dinner in Rome, the Pope asked Weigel to take on this project, assuring Weigel that he would have all necessary assistance and access to him on a regular basis. At the same time, the Holy Father agreed he would have no rights of approval for any manuscript.

Since his death last week, much has been written about John Paul II. What I have prepared here is based on Weigel's book and I have chosen some of the more interesting passages as it concerns the Holy Father and the Philippines. The title of this column comes from Chapter 11 of the book, which covers his first Asian pilgrimage to Pakistan, the Philippines and Japan.

At age 58, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Poland was elected the 264th Bishop of Rome on Oct. 16, 1978, the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. He was chosen on the fourth and final ballot of the second day of the Conclave succeeding Pope John Paul I (Cardinal Albino Luciani) who died after 33 days in office. John Paul I was a man of simple tastes who refused a coronation and whose motto on the papal coat of arms was a single word: *Humilitas* (Humility). When he was asked by the Camerlengo Cardinal Jean Villot whether he would accept his election, he startled his colleagues by replying, "May God forgive you for what you have done."

In the case of Karol Wojtyla, his reply to the same question was a firm, unhesitating "*Accepto*." Then to the second ritual question as to what name he wanted to be known, he answered that because of his devotion to Paul VI and his affection for John Paul I, he would be known as John Paul II.

After his election, Pope John Paul II broke three precedents. First, when the papal master of ceremonies indicated that he should sit in front of an altar to receive the homage of the cardinals, he replied, "I received my brothers standing." When he appeared on the balcony to address the waiting crowd in the Vatican square, he brushed aside the master of ceremonies and instead of simply giving the apostolic blessing in Latin, he introduced himself in Italian, informing the people that he "accepted the nomination in the spirit of obedience to the Lord and in total confidence in His Mother." At his formal inauguration a week later, the College of Cardinals lined up to pledge fidelity to the new Pope by individually genuflecting before him. When the Primate of Poland, Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski started to genuflect, John Paul II rose from his throne, bent down, seized the old man and locked him in a long embrace. (Keep in mind that of Poland's two cardinals, John Paul II was the junior. Also, before the elections, when Wyszynski was asked by a colleague about Wojtyla he answered, "No, he's too young, he's unknown, he could never be Pope."

* * *

In February 1981, Pope John Paul II embarked on his "First Asian Pilgrimage" which was built around the beatification of Lorenzo Ruiz who was martyred in Nagasaki in the 17th century. For 2,000 years of Church history, East Asia had been its great evangelical failure with the Christians amounting to only one percent of the region's population. To prepare for this trip, the Pope took crash courses in Japanese and Tagalog—for two hours a day prior to his departure.

Weigel recounts how, "the wonderfully surnamed Cardinal Jaime Sin, a shrewd, exuberant Chinese ethnic had submitted three possible Philippine itineraries to the papal trip planners. John Paul had chosen the most demanding. With a sigh, Sin remarked: Let us hope the reporters can keep up with the front runner in white."

"The centerpiece of the Philippine pilgrimage was the February 18 beatification of Lorenzo Ruiz and his companions. It was the first such ceremony ever held outside Rome or Avignon. Cardinal Sin had asked that the beatification take place in Manila and John Paul had readily agreed. A million Filipinos came to Luneta Park for the ceremony. Breaking into Tagalog from English, John Paul reminded the enormous congregation, the largest Catholic celebration in the history of Asia, of the martyr's words to the Japanese court that would condemn him: Even if this body would have a thousand lives, I would let all of them be killed, before you would force me to turn my back on Christ."

* * *

Pope John Paul II made his second trip to the Philippines in January 1995, on the occasion of World Youth Day which was celebrated for the first time in Asia. On the morning of Jan. 15, the largest crowd in human history gathered for the closing Mass at the Luneta. A Japanese company using overhead photography to calculate the number of persons per acre, estimated a minimum of five million people and a maximum of seven million.

My own notes on this second papal trip had to do with his visit to the University of Sto. Tomas where he met with youth delegates from all over the world. As each one stepped up to him, the Holy Father would listen to their prayers or greetings, then embrace them closely or plant a kiss on their foreheads. You could see the glow on their faces, some with tears in their eyes, most wishing to stay in his arms for just a few more seconds. For all of them, it was an experience that would not be repeated in their lifetime.

Communion and afterlife

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

LIKE many—if not most—Filipinos, and the rest of the world, I found myself riveted to the TV Friday afternoon, as the live coverage of the Pope's funeral got underway.

The funeral ceremonies and Mass were certainly moving and strangely comforting, though, of course, none of us ordinary mortals could even hope to receive a similar send-off. But as the cantor and choir chanted the names of saints, apostles and holy men and women who would presumably accompany Pope John Paul II on his journey to the other life, I saw images of the hosts of Heaven welcoming the faithful home and felt a reassuring warmth. We may not all be mourned by "four kings, five queens and 70 heads of state." Neither will our funerals be watched by 4-5 million folks from around the world. But if we die in a state of grace, regardless of who or what we are in the earthly life, then we can at least be sure of the same reception in Heaven.

A CNN anchor said the coverage of the Mass underscored the two main teachings of the Catholic Church. The first—While we are all mortals, we all can look forward to the promise of eternal life. The second—"Communion," the oneness and coming together of the faithful in liturgy and prayer.

This was shown most powerfully in the part of the Mass when the patriarchs of the Oriental churches approached the altar for their own ritual of farewell to the Pope. They reminded the world of an older stream of Catholicism, and the amazing diversity of our own Church which can be home to and find a home in every society and culture, the message of faith discernible in whatever language it is phrased. Indeed, the funeral was a teaching and evangelizing opportunity, as much as it was a spectator event.

* * *

THAT afternoon, virtually everywhere you surfed on TV, you found yourself on St. Peter's Square. The local networks were not remiss, airing the satellite feed from the Vatican, while covering as well observances around the country.

But in terms of offering Filipinos access to the event—explaining the origins and context of the largely Latin rites, sharing the deeper meaning of the rituals and symbols—the live coverage of GMA-7 was unbeatable. And, no disrespect to the anchors Arnold Clavio and Vicky Morales, it was largely due to the presence of Msgr. Moises Andrade. A liturgist and linguist, "Msgr. Moi" used his rich theological background and gift for language to instantaneously translate whatever was being said in Rome into clear and mellifluous Filipino, as well as to deepen our understanding of the faith. Most impressive were Msgr. Moi's modesty and low-key demeanor, and one got the sense that he wasn't so much showing off as performing his duty as a priest and interpreter of the Word. Thank you, monsignor, for this great service!

* * *

THE MASS and funeral services, said as they were in Latin, the universal language of the Church—save for the prayers of the faithful which were said by lay people from around the world including the Philippines—brought back memories of the days before Vatican II, when the Mass was always said in Latin, and the entire liturgy seemed wrapped in mysticism and mystery.

A few Catholics may look back on those days with some sentiment and nostalgia, yearning for the certainty and triumphalism of those days. But I, for one, am glad to have put them behind us.

I remember the Mass as some kind of arcane ritual, to which we needed to bring a missal to serve as a guidebook to whatever it was the priest was saying far away in the altar. The priest himself was largely unseen, except during the homily, for he kept his back turned to the congregation, his words and actions unseen.

When the new rules were enacted, the Mass took on a new meaning, becoming truly the community banquet that our religion teacher said it was. The priest then became truly part of the community, a leader and presider, rather than a remote figure who seemed to be the only one talking to God on our behalf.

Also exciting, at least in the beginning, was the presence of women in the rarefied confines of the altar area. I remember attending one "Misa de Gallo" in those days, in which a laywoman was invited to deliver the reflection. An aunt of mine couldn't stop marveling at what she had just seen, saying it was the first time she had ever seen a woman take a role in the Mass. Now we take women lectors and readers for granted, and altar girls, at least in the United States and other countries, are commonplace.

* * *

IT is difficult to convey exactly the sense of freedom and inclusion that Vatican II ushered, especially for the laity who, before then, had been looked upon as mere subjects to be ordered around, told what to think and to believe.

Equally invigorating was the sense of commitment that came with being Catholic in those days, a commitment as much to the transformation of society, to the eradication of unjust systems and the establishment of a regime of justice and equality on this earth, as much as to personal salvation.

Post conciliar Catholics have been derided as "cafeteria Catholics," who pick and choose what they want to believe in and follow, be it contraception or homosexuality. But just as choosy are those who listen only to spiritual exhortations and feel-good calls to piety, but ignore the messages of popes down the ages, including John Paul II, on social justice and poverty. It may only be a matter of emphasis, but it's high time the wind starts blowing in the other direction.

Immortality

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THE MOST fascinating thing about the tributes and the media coverage that accompanied Pope John Paul II's death is the relentless message that this particular man's life will not be forgotten. Many are already calling him a saint. He is dead, but his spirit lives in the hearts of the many who admire him.

Such is the function of culture. It tells us that a life can be meaningful even if death necessarily punctuates it. It urges us to embrace life, not as the "one long illness" that Socrates called it as he lay dying, but as a chance at immortality. In fact, culture and all its activities—religion in particular—make us forget death, except as a prelude to the eternal life.

"Today I wish to add only this: that each of us must bear in mind the prospect of death. And must be ready to present himself before the Lord and Judge—Who is at the same time Redeemer and Father," wrote John Paul II in a 1980 addendum to his original last testament. "Accepting that death, even now, I hope that Christ will give me the grace for the final passage, in other words my Easter. I also hope that He makes that death useful for this more important cause that I seek to serve: the salvation of men and women, the safeguarding of the human family and, in that, of all nations and all peoples (among them, I particularly address my earthly Homeland), and useful for the people with whom He particularly entrusted me, for the question of the Church, for the glory of God Himself."

From the start, it was clear to John Paul II that he wished most of all to contribute to the peaceful resolution of the Cold War and the liberation of nations from tyranny. At the same time, he was also conscious of his duty to strengthen the institution that was entrusted to him, and to ensure its survival and relevance in the third millennium.

In all these intentions, he undoubtedly succeeded. Dictatorships fell not only in his beloved Poland but also almost everywhere he brought the message of freedom and human rights, including the Philippines. The end of the Cold War in the late '80s, which signaled the collapse of the Soviet Union, owes much to his efforts. What he may not have foreseen are the dangers of a unipolar world, a world dominated by one military and economic superpower that will not hesitate to trample on other peoples' rights in the pursuit of its interests. He was horrified by the American aggression in Iraq and used his moral authority to oppose the war. But he himself commanded no armies; he was powerless to stop the madness of US President George W. Bush.

He spoke for poor nations buried in debt as a result of exploitation and bad government, and endorsed selective debt cancellation as a moral option. The rich nations applauded him but completely ignored his message.

He spoke for the poor, the youth, the sick, and migrants all over the world, and championed the cause of the family as an institution. But he was unyielding on Church doctrines pertaining to the rights of women and gays, the issues of contraception and divorce. In trying to seek a balance between the Church's need to remain relevant in a changing world and preserving the institution's moral authority, he leaned on the side of conservatism.

The Church remains in crisis still, but if it is stronger than it was in 1978 when John Paul II became its head, it can only be due in great measure to his reaching out to almost every sector of the human family. Although he performed his duties faithfully as leader of the institutional Church, he was a priest to the end. He was effective because, more than any world leader of his time, he mastered the idiom of the modern media, consistently synthesizing his messages into powerful sound bites.

John Paul II is probably even more eloquent in death than in life. His final words, including his last testament, echo the lessons he sought to teach when he was alive. His death illumines his life. Young people remember him most because he gave them joy. He taught them not to fear.

The whole past week, television covered the Pope's death by following a simple formula—to make others talk about the man, their rare encounter with his presence, his impact on their lives. This is the way to immortality in the age of mass media. A few years from now, few will likely remember where this Pope precisely stood on the crucial questions of our time. It is the television persona that will prevail.

John Cornwell captured this persona so accurately in his book, "The Pontiff in winter": "There is no substitute for the living presence, the inclination of the head, the meeting of the eyes, the idiosyncratic gesture, the tone of voice." No other pope was quite like him. I never had the chance to meet John Paul II in person or to see him up close, but I can relate to this image of the man who, "deeply stooped and hugely broad-shouldered, his legs a little apart like a hill-walker steadying himself," seemed to carry all the burdens of the world.

The mass media routinely confers upon celebrities instant immortality. The more tragic and unexpected their death, the bigger they look. The cases of Princess Diana and of Fernando Poe Jr. quickly come to mind. But such media-based immortality seldom endures. A few hours after Pope John Paul II was buried, television's attention quickly shifted to the next celebrity happening: the marriage of the late Diana's former husband, Prince Charles, to his lover, Camilla Parker-Bowles.

Neither television nor canonization can make John Paul II immortal. But a concrete change for the better in the life of the human family may.

* * *

Comments to public.lives@gmail.com

Tough love

COMMENTARY

Denis Murphy

CHAIR Bayani Fernando of the Metro Manila Development Authority received lavish praise in an International Herald Tribune article (March 21) that surprisingly received little, if any, attention here. In the article, he defends himself against charges that he acts cruelly against poor vendors and urban poor settlers. "It pains me to do this (the seemingly harsh treatment), but I cannot cry with the poor, because if my tears blind me, who will guide them?" His toughness with the poor is a form of what Fernando called "tough love."

There is a thin line, however, between "tough love" which seeks the good of people even while imposing discipline, and doing evil to achieve good ends. All moralists, from St. Thomas Aquinas to Immanuel Kant, taught that the end doesn't justify the means. Beautification of the city, road-widening, efforts to control floods and similar initiatives may be good goals, but they never justify putting hundreds of poor people homeless into the streets. A family's right to shelter is a basic right as told by the Gospel (Matthew 25:36), by the Philippine Constitution (Art. XIII, 9, 10), and the United Nations. A young Ateneo graduate gave me the following quote from Kant: "Always recognize that human individuals are ends, and do not use them as means to your end."

In the following eviction story, the reader can judge if the MMDA chief's actions are a form of love, or plain cruelty or an immoral means to the ends he seeks. Let this be clear: this article is not meant to make any judgment on his personal innocence or guilt.

Involved in this case are 78 families. The day Pope John Paul II died, the families, living literally under a bridge on Quirino Avenue near the old Paco Railroad Station, were threatened with eviction.

Going into their place of abode was like entering a boiler room. There was just a narrow entrance along the side wall of the bridge; and inside was pitch-black darkness, though it was only 10 a.m. We could feel pressure in our ears as if we were deep in a mine shaft. A woman in the dark said, "I'll turn on a light." After a while further along the dirt path, a light came on and we could see a little. We walked along looking into shadowed cubicles to the left and right. Inside some children slept; in others, men and women sat quietly looking at us, wondering perhaps what more bad news we had. Then we met two elderly women.

The two are cousins, Anita Linda Litana from Laguna and Myrna Corro from Naga City. Anita is blind. Only 52, she looks 70 years old, even more. Myrna is 63. She worked in factories until she was told she was too old to do good work and was fired. Now they survive by begging in the streets. Their children also live under the bridge.

The women don't know why they are being evicted. The MMDA official had claimed it was for beautification, that Sen. Franklin Drilon didn't want the delegates to the Inter-Parliamentary Union meeting at the Philippine International Convention Center to see them there. True or not, those were the reasons given by the MMDA to the barangay captain who said the eviction will take place after the IPU meeting. Maybe, the real reason is to clean the canal in order to limit flooding. But the reason for the demolition doesn't matter in this discussion. The reason is the end. What concerns us here is the means.

The women have no idea where they will go. They have been under the bridge for more than 12 years. The MMDA has P5,000 for each evicted family. "What will you do with the money?" we asked the women. They don't know. They said they couldn't imagine having so much money in their hands.

Other families who have received the money told us P3,000 of it is gone, paid to rent a new place, three months in advance. Then they'd buy some food and soon the money would all be gone, they said. They will find other areas to squat, where they will be worse off than ever.

How do you feel about the eviction, we asked the two women. They said they were confused, they didn't like having to move. Asked if they were angry with the situation, they replied: "*Hindi naman*. They accept they are *mahina*(weak, powerless and helpless). They wished the government to give them a house if possible, and they would find food, they said.

They are sometimes picked up by the police when they are begging and brought to a DSWD shelter. The food is good, but the preparation is not, they said. (They are fussy about food and rooms: Myrna's room was neat and clean. We didn't see Anita's.) After three days, they are released. As we talked, the walls and ground shook due to the traffic roaring overhead.

The eviction violates several international covenants signed by the Philippines along with most of the world's countries. The United Nations Commission on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights has called forced, illegal demolitions, such as those of the MMDA, "gross violations of human rights."

A major problem is the government's lack of money for relocation. One estimate of the cost is P180,000 per family. The government, if it wishes to act in a legal and moral way, must either stop evicting or sit down with the families concerned (including the landowner family if the land is private) and work out feasible, humane solutions.

There are solutions. Families do not need complete houses in relocation areas; for example, an upgraded land site with basic services and secure tenure may be enough. Solutions can be found if people and government dialogue and negotiate with mutual respect. We cannot do evil to achieve good ends.

Evictions have become a major problem in our country, especially in Metro Manila. Today, 50,000-70,000 poor families along the PNR railroad tracks await eviction; 5,000 along esteros in the city of Manila; 10,000 on the R-10 road in Tondo and Navotas; perhaps, as many as 11,000 along the Pasig River waterways. The list does not include families occupying private lands, such as, the 4,000 families being evicted in Barangay Tonsuya, Malabon.

We don't want our evictions to go the way of Mumbai (Bombay, India) where, within a few months late last year, 90,000 families were put into the streets without shelter, compensation, or even warning. The price of land in that increasingly wealthy city caused the elite to forget all of Indian's social traditions and concerns for housing rights.

Good relocation is difficult because governments lack money. If we insist, however, on making tens of thousands of our poor families homeless in order to have better infrastructure or supermalls, we are treating people as mere means, and building society on the broken lives of the poor.

How would the late Pope John Paul II have looked on these matters if he had seen the babies and old people in the sweltering dark? What would he have said to government, Church and all of society? I don't think any of us would want to be on the receiving end of his words.

Denis Murphy works with the Urban Poor Associates.

Please send feedback to jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

John Paul II on family and women

THE 26-year pontificate of John Paul II was considered the most luminous in the 20th century. He has been described as the most influential voice for morality and peace in the world over the past 100 years.

Traveling to 129 countries as the 264th bishop of Rome, he became the most photographed public figure of his era.

Political and religious leaders, kings and queens, celebrities and the humble paid their respects to John Paul II, who had committed himself to human rights, peace, disarmament, and justice for the poor and oppressed.

His visits to a synagogue and a mosque and to Israel and Arab countries strengthened Vatican's relations with the Jews and Muslims.

While he was considered a "progressive" when it came to certain social issues, he pursued "conservative" theology.

He limited the authority of bishops' conferences and suppressed liberation theology, which mixed Biblical themes with Marxist social analysis.

He reaffirmed the discipline of priestly celibacy and the doctrine that women could not be ordained as priests.

On his orders, the Vatican urged all Catholic lawmakers to oppose legalization of same-sex marriage and adoptions by gays and lesbians.

He condemned artificial birth control, abortion, euthanasia, experimentation with human embryos and the death penalty.

But he acknowledged that the human body might not have been the immediate creation of God and that evolution was more than just a hypothesis.

Culture of life part of his legacy

By Mayor Jose L. Atienza, Jr.
City of Manila

The outpouring of affection and admiration for Pope John Paul II at his passing is unprecedented for any world leader. Mankind seemed to stand still to honor this holy man for his extraordinary accomplishments in his 26 years as the Holy Father, and indeed for his entire life.

Pro-life

No world leader can match Pope John Paul II's pro-life commitment. He was unwaveringly opposed to war. He galvanized action that led to the downfall of communism. He sought to unite Christians and reached out to Muslims and non-Christians, demonstrating how Catholic commitment does not exclude human and spiritual friendship.

He took the cudgels for the world's poor, urging the wealthy toward moderation and generosity.

Pope John Paul II wanted people to realize that religion is not to be kept hidden or private, but is a relationship of knowledge and love marked by service to God and men. He communicated this in many theological writings that add to the treasured body of Church teachings. He brought his message personally, with charisma and energy, through 104 pilgrimages to 129 countries.

The Pope saw in each person the image and likeness of God. And so, the human person deserves respect and protection from conception to natural death.

Human dignity

Human dignity is based on our capacity to know and love God and others. He never diluted or compromised these principles for the sake of popularity ratings.

The Pope urged us not to allow the "culture of death" to overcome society. In 1997, at the 25th anniversary of the Roe vs Wade decision legalizing abortion in the United States, he lamented the "continuing holocaust of innocent human lives" and pleaded for "a culture of absolute respect for life."

He said these mothers are often left alone to bear their deep sorrow and remorse. His remarkable concern for women was undoubtedly instilled by his mother, who died when he was nine, and by Mama Mary herself.

In John Paul II, we saw how the Church defends natural moral law. Attacks on family and life are reprehensible not because the Pope teaches so, but because such actions are evil in themselves, and harm everyone, Catholic or not.

In "Evangelium Vitae" (The Gospel of Life), the Pope appealed to everyone to reverse the devaluation of human life. He said many countries have tried to gag their consciences to justify not only abortion, but also contraception, assisted suicide, capital punishment, cloning and embryonic stem cell research.

Contraception

The Pope also said, "The negative values inherent in the contraceptive mentality are such that they in fact strengthen this temptation when an unwanted life is conceived." He said abortion and contraception were very closely connected, as "fruits of the same tree" ("Familiaris Consortio," The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World).

He suggested instead "accepting the cycle of the woman, and thereby accepting dialogue, reciprocal respect, shared responsibility and self-control." In this way, marriage is "enriched with those values of tenderness and affection which constitute the inner soul of human sexuality, in its physical dimension also."

Anti-family legislation

Our countrymen, especially our Catholic legislators, should pay heed to the Pope's insight, who alerted us that "broad sectors of public opinion justify certain crimes against life in the name of the rights of individual freedom, and on this basis they claim ... even authorization by the state ... these things can be done ... with the free assistance of health-care systems."

Doesn't that sound like a foretelling of House bills that attack our Filipino culture? House Bill Nos. 3773 and 1808 on population management, 4016, 1025 and 847 on divorce, 634 granting licenses for same-sex unions, 261 endorsing assisted suicide and euthanasia—these are all direct threats to life and family, and the Pope summons us to counter this culture of death.

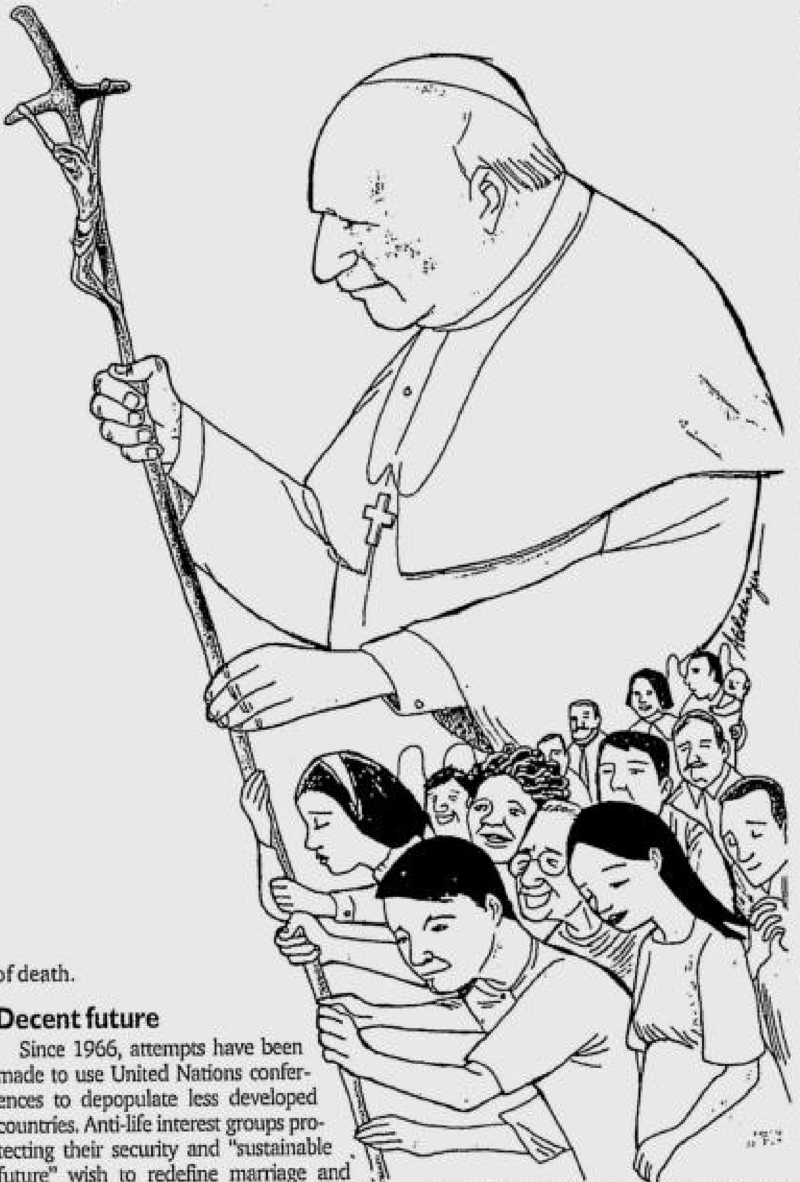


ILLUSTRATION AND PAGE DESIGN BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Decent future

Since 1966, attempts have been made to use United Nations conferences to depopulate less developed countries. Anti-life interest groups protecting their security and "sustainable future" wish to redefine marriage and family, reduce births, and justify killing of the unborn and elderly. But Pope John Paul II told the world that a decent future must be made available to all, not just to the powerful few.

We, who have all been paying tribute to the Pope, should be alert and unafraid to refuse compromise with the legislative masquerade pretending to espouse responsible parenthood, health care and women. The Pope has done his part. It's our turn to do ours.

The Pope's final days were also an eloquent teaching tool. By his silent suffering, he proclaimed the Gospel of Life, where sacrifice has a noble purpose, and human dignity is not impaired by physical limitations.

We celebrate the courage, integrity, moral certitude and compassion of Pope John Paul the Great. He was a true witness of Christ, a global leader. We owe him a debt of gratitude that must overflow into our personal actions to promote the culture of life.

Salamat po, Santo Papa Juan Pablo II. Ipanalangin mo po kami.

(Atienza is the chair of Pro-Life Philippines.)

JP II's encyclicals, exhortations and books

Encyclicals

- Ecclesia de Eucharistia - On the Eucharist in its Relationship to the Church (April 17, 2003)
- Fides et Ratio - On the relationship between Faith and Reason (Sept. 14, 1998)
- Ut Unum Sint- That they may be one - On Commitment to Ecumenism (May 25, 1995)
- Evangelium Vitae - On the Value and Inviolability of Human Life (March 25, 1995)
- Veritatis Splendor - The Splendor of Truth - Regarding Certain Fundamental Question of the Church's Moral Teaching (Aug. 6, 1993)
- Centesimus Annus - On the 100th anniversary of Pope Leo XIII's Rerum Novarum - On Capitol and Labor; On Catholic social teaching (May 1, 1991)
- Redemptoris Missio - On the permanent validity of the Church's missionary mandate (Dec. 7, 1990)
- Sollicitudo Rei Socialis- On Social Concerns (Dec. 30, 1987)
- Redemptoris Mater - Mother of the Redeemer (March 25, 1987)
- Dominum et Vivificantem - The Lord and Giver of Life (May 18, 1986)
- Slavorum Apostoli - In commemoration of the Saints Cyril and Methodius (June 2, 1985)
- Laborem Exercens - On Human Work (Sept. 14, 1981)
- Dives in Misericordia - The Father of mercies and God of all comfort (Nov. 30, 1980)
- Redemptor Hominis - The Redeemer of Man (March 4, 1979)

Apostolic exhortations

- Pastores Gregis (Oct. 16, 2003)
- Ecclesia in Europa (June 28, 2003)
- Ecclesia in Oceania (Nov. 22, 2001)
- Ecclesia in Asia (Nov. 6, 1999)
- Ecclesia in America (Jan. 22, 1999)
- A New Hope for Lebanon (May 10, 1997)
- Vita Consecrata (March 25, 1996)
- Ecclesia in Africa (Sept. 14, 1995)
- Pastores Dabo Vobis (March 25, 1992)
- Redemptoris Custos (Aug. 15, 1989)
- Christifideles Laici (Dec. 30, 1988)
- Reconciliatio et Paenitentia (Dec. 2, 1984)
- Redemptionis Donum (March 25, 1984)
- Familiaris Consortio (Nov. 22, 1981)
- Catechesi Tradendae (Oct. 16, 1979)

Books

- "Rise, Let Us Be On Our Way" (2004). In this autobiographical account, after describing the great emotions of his ordination, the Pope focuses on the profound experiences during his ministry as bishop of Kraków.
- "Roman Triptych - Meditations"(2003) This is a collection of the Pope's 12 poems after a long pause in his poetic writings, during a stay in the summer residence of Castel Gandolfo.
- "Gift and Mystery" (1996) The Pope's memoirs which discuss his priesthood, his religious life and his motivation for dedicating his life to God, as well as key periods such as the era of Nazi occupation
- "Crossing the Threshold of Hope" (1994). The Pope expresses his beliefs, feelings, and hopes for the world as he speaks at length for the first time about the major issues facing humankind on the eve of the 21st century.

Compiled by PDI Research
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Has he failed to cross the threshold of hope for women?

By Atty. Rhodora M. Roy-Raterta and Rey Carmelo Remonde

The Pope is dead. A benevolent figure, he has touched many lives of various faiths. For Catholics around the world, he was the very essence of goodness. For other faiths, he was perceived as having made possible the birth of new democracies and he was strong in ecumenism.

For Filipinos, he is the Santo Papa, the brave leader in his "Pope Mobile" whom the youth idolized and could not forget even as they matured into leaders in their own right. He is also remembered as the sportsman who made physical fitness part of his life. But for many Catholic women, he is viewed as the progressive leader who was naïve when it came to women's wants and needs.

Freedom of CHOICE!

Was he really naïve or was he just being too dogmatic, beyond reason, about his beliefs on contraception, ordination of women priests, HIV/AIDS and feminism? Was he held hostage by conservatives around him? Methinks that the Pope did not really have a chance to understand women and that his Marian beliefs and possible leaning on the "physicalist strand of the Eternal Law of God in the order of procreation" enveloped him like a vise.

Contradictions

The Pope was a thinker who wrote valuable works like encyclicals and books such as "Crossing the Threshold of Hope." But why was it so difficult for women to cross the threshold? The Pope seemed to be a complex and probably conflicted person. As part of Vatican II, his papacy was considered to be dynamic, but we believe, full of contradictions. Even as he seemed to be progressive, he seemed to have treated women as second class citizens within the Catholic Church structure.

He also seemed to have swept under the rug the allegations of sexual abuse against men of the cloth even as some of the alleged victims are nuns. He made statements against war and valued life but seemed to have worn blinders when it came to death due to pregnancy and childbirth because of the lack of options on contraception.

Why must Catholic women deny that they use contraceptives even as they praise God for every day that they are protected from pregnancy?

Not anti-life

Contraception is not anti-life! It is for deciding when to have children and how many children spouses can nurture into caring and sharing families. It is for providing quality life to your children while having a satisfying sex life with your spouse. Every physical act, in love, with your spouse is a covenant before God and God is pleased when spouses have covenants!

But the Pope may have not seen this love within the family and the need to help couples become good stewards of their families because he entered into a vow of celibacy.

Was the Pope really anti-women? Probably not. He was a Marian devotee and from among the popes, he was the one who showed such love for Mary that he had the letter M emblazoned on one of the symbols in the Vatican. No one can refute this. But, being very conservative, he probably stuck to the view of looking at Mary only from the vantage point of "virginity" rather than her being a mother and a wife.

It was in his papacy that a woman who died of childbirth—putting the life of the child before her own life—became a saint. What signal did it send? That it was alright to die and leave other children behind?

The Pope loved the poor so much so that he spent time in the Third World. But why did he not belie what others thought, i.e. blessed are the poor for they shall inherit the Kingdom of God? And therefore, is it alright for families to have many children even if they are poor as long as governments and other sectors help? But that is a farce! The Bible said, "blessed are the poor in spirit!" That means, those who seek God's solace.

Why was he not able to remove barriers within the Church hierarchy, which would make the poor on equal footing with the rich? Why must there be an option for rich Catholics to have their marriages annulled within the Church system? Why can't this become available to the poor?

Good Catholic girls

The Pope has become an icon for purity of purpose. He may probably be the greatest Pope. However, to quote Angela Bonovoglia, an award-winning journalist, and author of the book "Good Catholic Girls" in an interview with Amy Goodman, "we have a structure that is based on an all-male, theoretically all-celibate hierarchy, and it has a vast amount of problems, and the other big area—I think we have—women have really struggled and suffered in terms of their role in the Church right now, is in the private sphere.

"Under this papacy, under this Vatican for the last 25 years, women's moral authority has been usurped by all of the really rigid sexual teachings that the Church has promulgated, not only to Catholics but around the world, in trying to build it into social policies."

Let not the Pope's death bring forth more conservatism. The Catholic leadership is not an imperial army, which should bully nations since there are non-Catholics who get affected by restrictive policies. Let the separation of Church and state remain inviolable. Our laws mandate local governments to provide family planning services. A local chief executive, who violates the law in the spirit of pursuing his or her religious beliefs, may actually be doing disservice to his or her constituents.

Yes, there are many Filipino Catholics. But they must not live in fear of reprisal if their acts are morally right! Anyone who capitalizes on the Pope's death to continue spreading untruths is not someone to be put on a pedestal.

The Pope is a good man. Yes, he may have been naïve and resolute about things he believed in to the point of rigidity. But, we do not think he was a liar.

(Rhodora Roy-Raterta is the executive director of Family Planning Organization of the Philippines [FPOP], and Rey Carmelo Remonde is the advocacy and resource mobilization officer of FPOP.)

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Villagers build own hydropower plant

By Artha Kira Paredes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

MALIBCONG, Abra—This is a modern-day *bayanihan*.

Villagers—both men and women—walked and hiked for six kilometers, carrying sacks of cement on their backs for the construction of a micro hydropower plant in Barangay Mataragan here.

Others used their horses to haul construction materials from Barangay Poblacion to their mountainous, remote village.

Some volunteered to butcher a pig or chicken in order to feed the workers.

Picnic system

In this village, they called this traditional practice "picnic system."

Most of the workers took time out from tilling their lands to help in the community project. "We work depending on the availability of materials, sometimes we work straight without taking a break for a month," village official Bernardo Gaano said.

For two years, young and old worked together, volunteering their time and strength to fulfill their dream to have electricity in their village. And their patience paid off.

Starting last month, each of the 60 houses in this barangay located at the outskirts of Malibcong—five hours of rough and winding roads and six hours of hike from the capital town of Bangued—has its own electric bulb.

"We are now happy to go home to a lighted house," barangay chief Eduardo Osing said. "We have planned this 10 years ago."

Productivity

Residents became more productive. Tiger grass broom makers could also now work even at night.

At the end of the day, those who own television sets allow their neighbors to watch programs while others listen to compact discs for the first time.

When the villagers would gather at the plaza, they would no longer gather pine wood to create bonfire at night. All they have to do is to switch on the micro hydropower plant and the whole village is lighted.

Osing thanked the De La Salle University and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) for supporting the project.

"We were supposed to shoulder 50 percent of the expenses as our counterpart but we could not afford it. We are grateful for Jica's financial support," he said.

Jica is a government agency created in 1974 to implement the technical cooperation projects of Japan's Official Development Assistance program.

Jica did not only provide construction materials but livelihood for the people as well by paying P200 for each sack of cement hauled from Poblacion Malibcong to Mataragan.

Obstacles

"The execution of the mini micro hydropower plant started only in 2003 because the implementers and the people of Mataragan could not meet halfway," he said.

Osing said there was conflict with the owners of the land areas that would be affected by the building of the hydropower plant.

He said project engineers had told them that each household was limited to 100 watts of power consumption.

"It is also not advisable yet to use it for more than three hours a day because they are still testing it," he said, adding that they will soon operate a rice mill near the plant.

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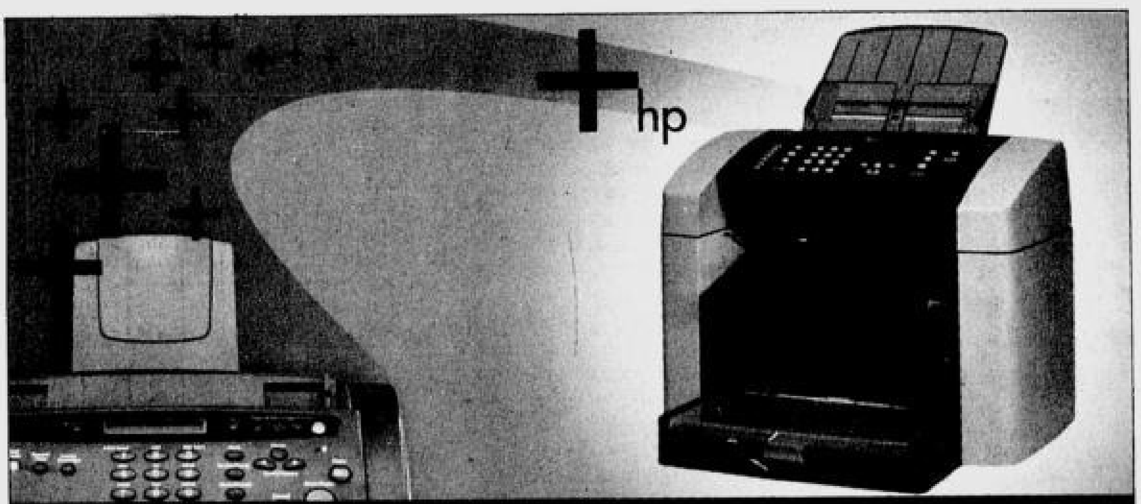

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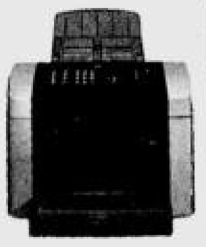
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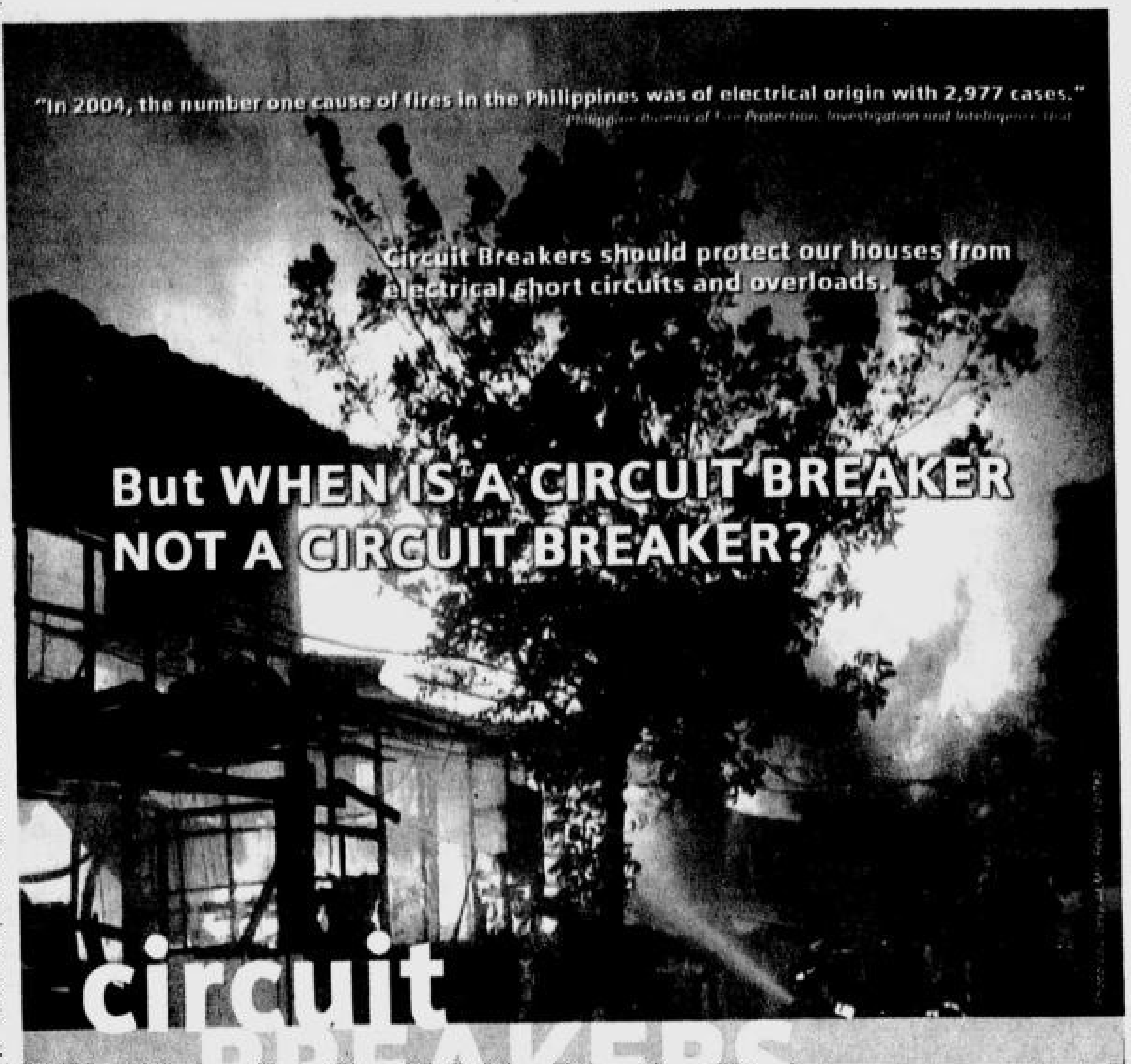
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A COUPLE displays their products in a booth made of banana stalk. RYAN ROSAURO

Goin' bananas in Lanao Norte

By Ryan D. Rosauro
Tubod, Lanao del Norte

BANANA is regarded as a symbol of underdevelopment among poor, tropical countries, where the fruit is endemic and widely cultivated. Their laggard economies earned for them the moniker "banana republics."

But in Tubod, the capital of predominantly coconut-producing Lanao del Norte, banana provides small farmers opportunity to diversify livelihood sources and increase incomes.

Unlike other banana-growing areas where it is tended in vast plantations owned or leased by multinational corporations, cultivation in Tubod is undertaken on a small-scale basis and intercropped with coconut.

Around 5,000 farmers tend the crop in at least 3,000 hectares of the town's 9,000-hectare coconut fields. Usually, farm size ranges from one to two hectares. With intercropping, a hectare typically accommodates 300 suckers. This can yield between P40,000 and P80,000 in gross sales for a farmer in a year, depending on the variety cultivated.

Lacatan, *tundan* and *cardaba* are the principal varieties planted. Traditionally, *lacatan* and *tundan* are sold in the high-end fresh fruits market of Cebu and Manila, while *cardaba* ends up with banana chips producers in Cebu.

Lacatan can pitch from P10 to P11 per kilogram; *tundan*, from P7 to P8, and *cardaba*, P4.

Crop history

Francisco Suano, municipal agriculture officer, said banana was not an important crop sometime ago, apart from serving as markers of landholding boundaries, and for household subsistence.

But it was observed that the town's 12,000 hectares of agricultural lands were suitable for banana because even in rocky soil, the crop grows well.

This observation became the cornerstone of a livelihood enhancement strategy developed around the mid-1970s to raise farm incomes, said Romana dela Cruz Neri, then the town's mayor.

Neri related that to dramatize this development track, banana was used as the object of a festival that started in 1977, now known as Sagingan.

Since then, the local government has encouraged banana farming, driving the entry into the town of various varieties brought in from traditional banana growing areas in Mindanao. This spurred further cultivation of the native varieties.

The call for wider banana cultivation has been very pronounced during the crisis years of the coconut industry in the early 1980s due to the aflatoxin problem.

"Today, banana is the second major crop of the town next to coconut," said Suano.

Currently, the town grows a total of 29 banana varieties—15 for food consumption, including *bulungan* which is used for making cakes. Some varieties are sold locally for growing as backyard and garden ornamentals.

Apart from paying homage to the crop's economic importance, the Sagingan showcases the productivity and diversity of varieties tended in the town's banana farms.

Per festival record, the largest bunch ever harvested was that of a giant *cardaba* weighing 88.5 kg. The typical bunch size of banana harvest is 30 kg for *lacatan*, 20 kg for *tundan* and 50 kg for *cardaba*, noted Suano.

Tubod is capable of producing 200 tons of banana every week, mostly of the three major varieties.

Because of the natural richness and fertility of the soil, most of the bananas are grown organically, free of costly chemical inputs, especially pesticides.

Aside from reduced farming cost, the local bananas offer a competitive edge in the market, said Suano.

Finicky clients, who are not familiar with organic farming, usually take issue with spots in the banana peel, he said. "But upon learning these are organically grown, they take a different stance. 'Organic' certification is therefore important for us."

In areas that require fertility boosters, Suano said that for over a year now, they had been testing the use of seawater from Panguil Bay, "with significantly good results."

He cited a study conducted by fishery technologists from the Mindanao State University, showing that Tubod's portion of the bay waters had high nutrient content and rich in potassium needed for healthy banana growth.

Prospects

When the banana growing program was just starting, those who responded were farmers who owned the land they till.

Today, many coconut landlords have allowed sharecroppers and farm workers to tend the crop. Through the facilitation of the local government, a production sharing scheme agreeable to both sides was formulated.

Suano said landlords were attracted at the "enviable experience" of other coconut estates where coconut production perked up when intercropped with banana. This development boosted the expansion of coconut lands cultivated also into banana fields.

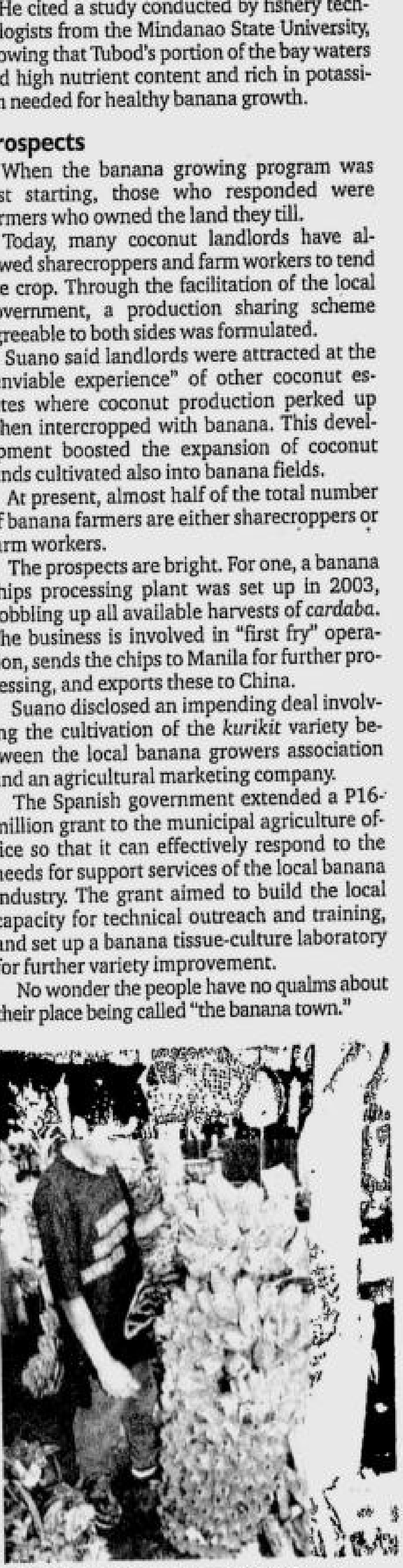
At present, almost half of the total number of banana farmers are either sharecroppers or farm workers.

The prospects are bright. For one, a banana chips processing plant was set up in 2003, gobbling up all available harvests of *cardaba*. The business is involved in "first fry" operation, sends the chips to Manila for further processing, and exports these to China.

Suano disclosed an impending deal involving the cultivation of the *kurikit* variety between the local banana growers association and an agricultural marketing company.

The Spanish government extended a P16-million grant to the municipal agriculture office so that it can effectively respond to the needs for support services of the local banana industry. The grant aimed to build the local capacity for technical outreach and training, and set up a banana tissue-culture laboratory for further variety improvement.

No wonder the people have no qualms about their place being called "the banana town."



A SPECTATOR to the recent Sagingan examines the largest bunch of banana so far harvested in Tubod town. RYAN D. ROSAURO

SC rules Ecleo case trial to stay in Cebu

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

FILE photo of the cult leader. PDI PHOTO

CEBU CITY—The Supreme Court has ruled that the trial of the parricide case against cult leader Ruben Ecleo Jr. will stay in Cebu City.

The Supreme Court Second Division, in its resolution dated March 16, has rejected for lack of merit the second petition of Ecleo to transfer the venue of the trial of his case from Cebu City to Manila.

Ecleo's legal counsels—lawyers Orlando Salatandre and Giovanni Mata—filed a second motion for a transfer of venue last year, citing the so-called hostile environment in Cebu City and their client's desire to be on a neutral ground for the trial of his case.

Ecleo's legal counsels filed the petition shortly after the private prosecutor of the case, lawyer Arbet Sta. Ana Yongco, was slain inside her house in Cebu City on Oct. 11, 2004.

The suspect in the Yongco killing was identified as Michel Favila, a member of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA), the group led by Ecleo.

Salatandre told the INQUIRER yesterday that they would still evaluate whether they would file a motion for reconsideration.

Besides, Salatandre said, they have yet to receive the copy of the decision.

"We will decide what to do after receipt of the copy of the Supreme Court's decision," he said.

Ecleo's defense team first asked the SC to transfer the venue of the hearing in 2002 after an inmate of the Bagong Buhay Rehabilitation Center (BBRC), where Ecleo was jailed, had allegedly tried to stab him using an improvised weapon made out of an empty canister of toothpaste. The SC dismissed the petition in the same year, also for lack of merit.

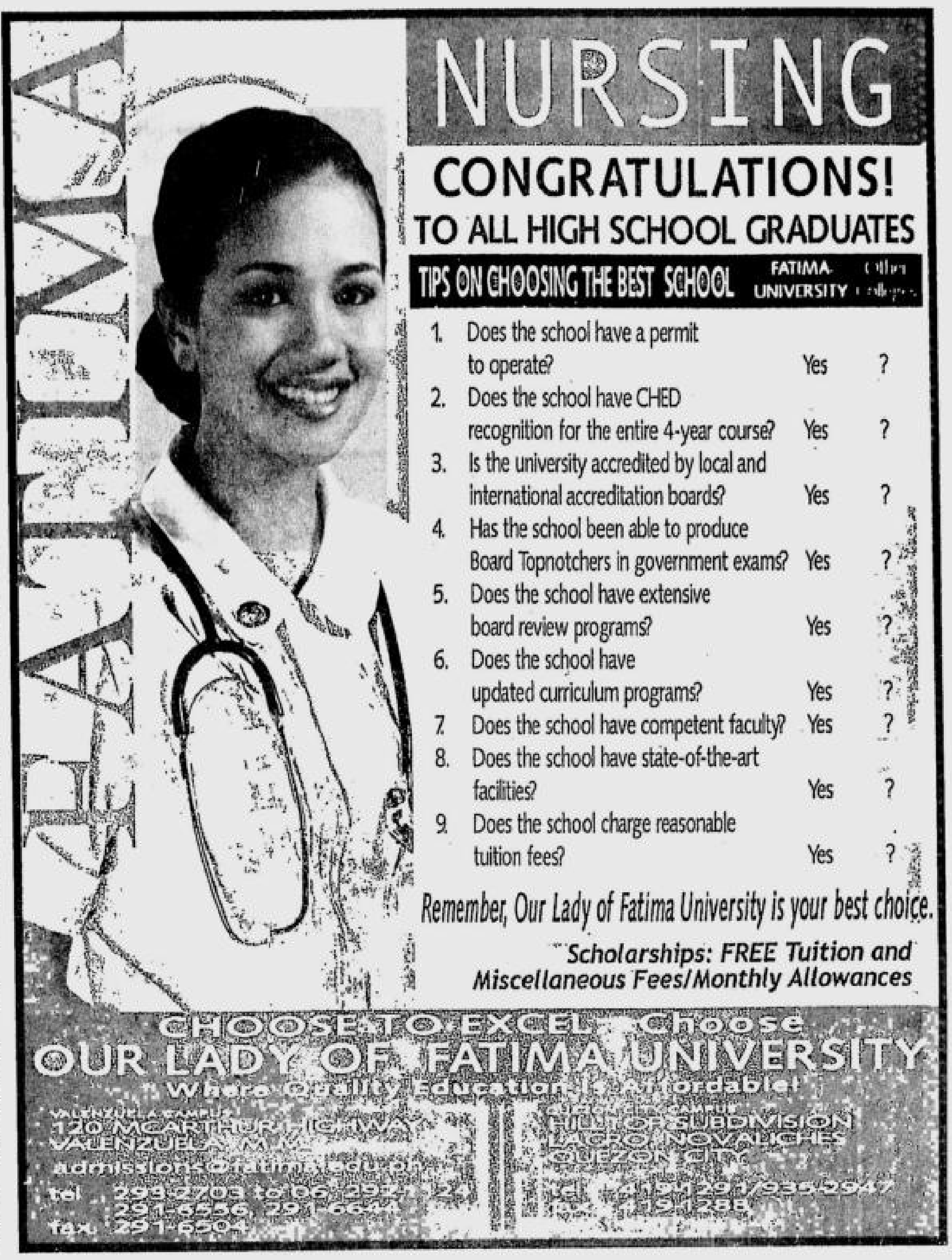
With the dismissal of Ecleo's request to transfer the venue of the trial, Judge Geraldine Faith Econg, of the Cebu Regional Trial Court Branch 9, was quoted in local dailies as saying that she will proceed in conducting the hearings based on the earlier schedule she has set.

Econg said she hoped to finish the trial before the end of this year.

Ecleo was charged with parricide for the death of his wife, Alona Bacolod-Ecleo, on Jan. 5, 2002.

The decomposing body of Alona, 27, was found inside a garbage bag that was dumped in Barangay Coro, Dalaguete town, some 85 km south of Cebu City, on Jan. 8, 2002, two days after her family reported her missing. Autopsy reports showed that Alona died of strangulation.

Ecleo has been out on a P1-million bail since last year after his doctors attested he required medical treatment for a heart ailment.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ROUNDUP

Town dad held for homicide

ROXAS CITY—Police on Friday arrested a municipal councilor in Dumalag town, Capiz, to face charges of homicide for shooting a town councilor last year. Meneleo Fajardo was later released after posting bail of P40,000 for his temporary liberty. Reports said the councilor gave himself up when police officers went to his house in Barangay Poblacion to serve the arrest warrant issued by Judge Ignacio Alajar of Municipal Circuit Trial Court of Dumalag-Tapaz. Fajardo is facing homicide charges for killing former councilor Nicasio Andrada in an alleged gunfight in 2004.
Felipe Celino, PDI Visayas Bureau

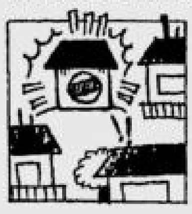
5 die in road heist

CAMP TIRSO GADOR, Tuguegarao City—Five persons were killed and five others wounded when armed men robbed a Tuguegarao City-bound passenger van in Conner, Apayao, on April 5. Supt. James Andres Melad, Cagayan police director, identified the fatalities as Victorino Calaje, Liza Bacuyag, Aset Balinsat and Fred Bacuyag, all residents of Tuao, Cagayan. The fifth fatality, a 30-year-old man, has yet to be identified. Melad said the two suspects boarded the Kia van in Barangay Mayomoy in Conner and declared a holdup when the vehicle reached Barangay Buluan at past 6 a.m. The suspects seized the passengers' money and belongings and shot them as they fled, Melad said.
Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

3 killed in carabao theft

QUEZON, Isabela—Three men who tried to steal a carabao and a calf in Barangay Calanguigan here were killed in a gunfight with policemen on April 6. Senior Supt. Napoleon Estilles, Isabela police director, said the suspects, whose names have yet to be released by the police, engaged policemen in a gunfight that lasted 15 minutes. Recovered from the suspects were a .22 cal. rifle, a homemade .38 cal. revolver and bullets. Estilles said farm animal theft is a persistent problem in Quezon, which is located near Kalinga and Apayao.
Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Billiard hall to be removed



CITY OF CALAPAN—Officials of Barangay Bayanan here are passing a resolution asking for the immediate removal of a billiard hall at a core housing project in their village. They said residents were complaining about the noise it created. Bishop Warlito Cajandig has called the attention of the city government to regulate noise in the community. *Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

7 killed in collision

LUCENA CITY—Seven persons were killed and 15 others injured after a Bicol-bound bus collided with a jeepney along the Maharlika Highway in Barangay Balubad, Atimonan, Quezon last week. A report here identified the casualties as Myrna Camara, Lamberto Epino, Juanita Vallesteros, John Carlo Pinera, Juanito Vallesteros Adan and Corazon Bantani, all from Atimonan. The jeepney driver, identified as Bernardo Villa, 40, of Barangay Villabota, Gumaca town, also died in the accident. Police said that at around 5 p.m., the still unidentified driver of Silver Star Bus tried to overtake the four vehicles ahead of him when the jeepney coming from the opposite direction appeared in a sharp curve and collided head-on with the bus. All of the casualties that died on the spot were passengers of the jeepney. Four other jeepney passengers suffered serious injuries, while 11 of the bus passengers were also injured. The bus driver fled after the collision.
Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Ex-mayor sues mayor for libel

BAGUIO CITY—Mayor Braulio Yaranon found himself facing a libel suit on Friday from his predecessor, Bernardo Vergara, over a series of interviews he supposedly made that described previous Baguio mayors as "corrupt."

Yaranon, a retired La Union judge, ran an anti-corruption campaign during the 2004 elections against a pay-parking firm and a proposed Camp John Hay casino, winning against Vergara by a wide margin.

One of Yaranon's first acts as mayor was to enjoin motorists to ignore Jadewell attendants as well as at least 12 automated parking meters. He also instructed the police to help Baguio residents, who refused to pay Jadewell's parking fees.

Violations

Yaranon said the Jadewell contract violated all major public works laws because the government had granted a commercial firm the authority to usurp police powers over city roads.

But Vergara is seeking P51 million in damages from the 78-year-old mayor for accusing unnamed city mayors of graft for allowing the Jadewell Pay Parking Corp. to operate in the city.

Vergara's complaint stemmed from a March 17 press conference at City Hall where Yaranon allegedly derided his unnamed predecessors for pursuing the Jadewell contract despite its legal infirmities.

The mayor also advised the INQUIRER in March about an investigation that would determine how and why the privatization of Baguio pay parking even took place. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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Cotabato kidnap victim's kin seek medical help for trader

COTABATO CITY—The relatives of a Filipino-Chinese trader seized here by suspected Pentagon kidnap gang members yesterday appealed to his captors to free him because he is ill.

Percival Fabiona, brother-in-law of victim Benny Kotah (not Cota as earlier reported), said the family is yet to hear from the kidnappers and their victim.

"We are waiting for his calls," he said.

This as the military's anti-kidnapping task force identified two of the suspects as Wahab Opaw and Omar Wayan, both members of the Pentagon kidnap group.

Col. George Lomboy, chief of the Army's Task Group Kutawato, said one of the suspects hit Kotah with a handgun in the head when he resisted the abduction.

"Please treat his head injuries, give him medicine and allow him to talk to us," Fabiona pleaded to Kotah's captors.

Kotah, owner of Kota Marketing and Solid Marketing, was driving his Tamaraw FX out of his residence along Doña Theresa Street at 7 a.m. Friday when the suspects abducted him. The kidnappers commandeered his vehicle and sped off.

Army and police authorities later discovered the Tamaraw FX abandoned in Barangay Bagua 2 here. Traces of blood, believed to be that of Kotah, were visible in the vehicle, Lomboy said.

The Kotah kidnapping has created a chilling effect on the city's business community.

"This is what we are telling our businessmen here, we have to be careful because they (kidnappers) are just there lurking around us," said Oscar Tan Abing, president of Cotabato City Grocers Association.

Abing appealed to fellow traders to be security conscious. He said the business community here still believes that the authorities can stop the kidnappings.

"Kidnapping incidents drive away investors, this is not good for the city," he added.

Cotabato City Mayor Muslimin Sema also warned the kidnappers that they would be caught soon.

"Free Benny Kotah and do not feed yourself and your family with dirty money," Sema said in a radio interview, addressing himself to the kidnappers. *Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Parishioners at the Our Lady of Assumption church in Guinobatan, Albay, offer flowers and candles in front of a portrait of the late Pope John Paul II, whose death is mourned by most Filipinos.

Fear envelops jail as 4 inmates die in succession

COTABATO CITY—Fear continues to grip some 50 prisoners of the City Reformatory Center with the death of an inmate due to "cardiac arrest" on Wednesday, the fourth in less than a month.

Medical findings showed they died of heart failure but prison officials expressed doubts after tales of horror by inmates, who claimed to have witnessed and experienced the presence, in various occasions, of ghosts, a white lady, children playing, a giant creature and other eerie sights, cropped up, said city jail warden Insp. Panga Arab.

Arab said Rikki Mohammad Talilisan, 25, died while being rushed to the Cotabato Regional Medical Center.

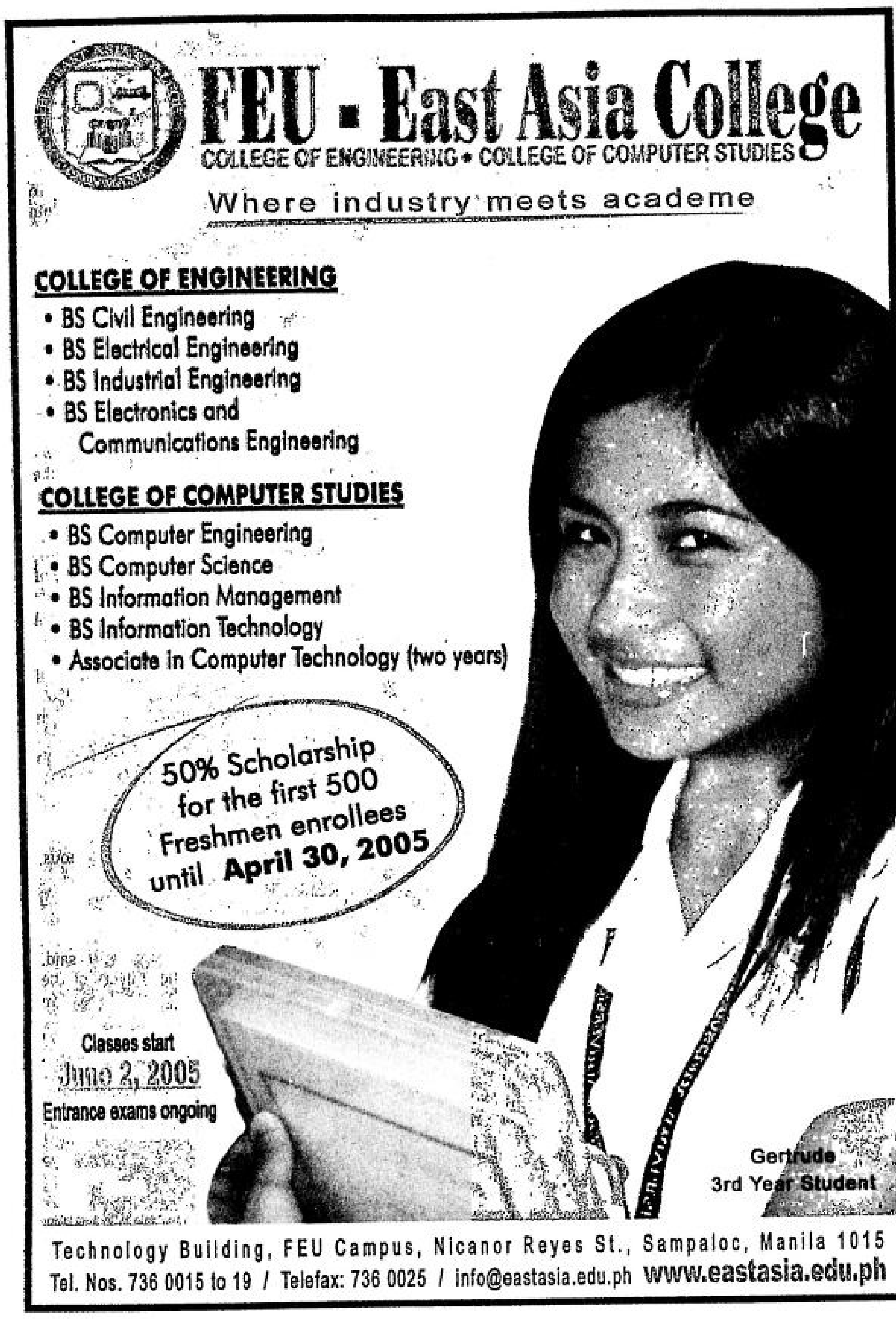
Arab earlier sought the intervention of Islam and Catholic clerics following the death of the first three inmates prior to the observance of Holy Week.

Confirmed dead due to the so-called "cardiac pulmonary arrest" were Moki Sinsuat (March 14), Sherwin Tanghal (March 16), and Jaime Cardines (March 19), all in their early 20s.

"Before their death, they've been talking about seeing supernatural beings. Could it be that these inmates had been victims of witchcraft?" Arab asked.

Despite religious rituals aimed at driving out evil spirits, the reformatory center accounted for another puzzling death of a young inmate, jail guards commented.

Arab and the guards said they believed the presence of a huge *balete* tree at the jail compound could be the source of the horror stories. *Charlie C. Señase and Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



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Early bets are on black prelate to be next pope

DUBLIN—Ireland's biggest bookmaking chain, Paddy Power, said Saturday that Nigeria's Cardinal Francis Arinze was now listed as the punters' outright favorite to succeed John Paul II as pope.

"We have received about 100,000 euros ($129,000) in bets from all over the world. It is an incredible amount of money for something like this," said spokesperson Paddy Power Jr. of online bookmakers www.paddypower.com.

If Arinze, 72, with odds of 11 to 4 is chosen by his fellow cardinals as the pope's successor, he will be the first pope from the Third World.

Paddy Power had earlier put Arinze at joint favorite with the archbishop of Milan, Cardinal Dionigi Tettamanzi, 71, who has slipped back to odds of 7 to 2.

The 117 cardinals will go into a secret meeting called a conclave in the Sistine Chapel in Rome on April 18 to begin the process of choosing a successor to Pope John Paul II, who was buried at the Vatican on Friday.

Wagering on who will be pope is a risky business.

Neither Albino Luciani nor Karol Wojtyla, who became John Paul I and John Paul II, respectively, were mentioned in pre-conclave speculation before they were chosen.

Power, son of the founder of the bookmaker, said there was an old saying that counsels: "He who goes into the conclave a pope comes out a cardinal."

Despite the caution, Power said they have been taking bets on the next pope for five years but the betting has only really taken off in recent weeks.

"As you would expect, it has been a pretty slow burner up to now. We expect it to keep building up from now on.

"It is crazy, we have recently had people opening up accounts with us from as far away as Mexico and Australia. I think we are the only bookies in the world taking bets on it." *AFP*

GMA back, defends trip to Rome

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday justified taking a special chartered flight to the Vatican to attend Pope John Paul II's burial amid criticism that this contradicted her self-imposed austerity measures in government.

"I went to Rome in the name of the Filipino people to be beside Pope John Paul II as he is brought to his final resting place," said the President in a Pulong Bayan at Farmer's Plaza in Cubao, Quezon City.

The President said that it was "very, very important" that she be present during the burial because "the Pope was very, very special to Filipinos and Filipinos were very, very special to him."

President Arroyo also related her conversation with United Nations Secretary General Kofi Anan during the Mass where she noted that the 4 million who attended the Pope's burial equaled the 4 million Filipinos who attended the Pope's Mass in Manila in 1995. Official estimates placed the number at the Pope's funeral at less than a million.

"We are the people that love Pope John Paul II so much and he loved us, too," Ms Arroyo said.

The President chartered a Philippine Airlines plane to take her on a direct 14-hour flight to Rome Wednesday with nearly 80 passengers on board.

Malacañang said that the government shouldered only the expenses of the five-member official delegation.

The President's foreign trips have come under close public scrutiny after she turned her state visit to China last year into a virtual First Family vacation with her in-laws, granddaughters and nannies along for the ride.

In the Vatican trip, only her daughter, Luli Arroyo, came along among the First Family members and Malacañang said that she would represent the Philippine youth at the funeral.

Church under pressure to canonize John Paul

By Lito B. Zulueta

VATICAN CITY—The clamor that erupted in St. Peter's Square was so powerful everyone heard it.

Normally, it takes decades or even centuries to achieve sainthood but the Vatican is expected to come under heavy pressure to speed up the process for Pope John Paul II and canonize him as quickly as possible.

The clamor, which lasted several minutes, came from the legions who attended the late Pope's funeral—and they made sure the Church heard it.

"Santo Subito!" the crowd chanted in Italian, and Catholics of other nationalities joined in. "Make him a saint—right away!"

"We have lost a pope but gained a saint," said Msgr. Ruperto Santos of the Pontifice Collegio Filippino, the dormitory for Filipino priests and religious based in Rome.

If John Paul is canonized quickly, a prospect he might not have entertained in his wildest dreams because of his humility, then it would be poetic justice for a pope who had made the most number of beatifications and canonizations in history.

John Paul II canonized 482 saints in 51 canonization rites. He was also a merry beatifier, beatification being the first step to canonization. All in all, he beatified 1,338. Many of the beato or blessed later on became saints.

First Filipino saint

The Philippines is thankful to John Paul for giving it its first saint.

The Pontiff came to the Philippines in 1981 and held the first beatification ceremonies outside of Rome. In colorful rites at Rizal Park, he beatified Lorenzo Ruiz and the companion martyrs who were killed during the Christian persecutions in 17th century Japan.

Then, in 1987—just six years later—he canonized Ruiz and his companions.

The Pope also beatified Pedro Calungsod, a Filipino catechist in the 18th century, who was martyred in Guam.

The spirited call to make Pope John Paul a saint highlighted a day heavy with drama and spectacle.

When the bell rang to start the requiem Mass and John Paul's coffin was brought out by pallbearers, waves upon waves of applause rose from the crowd estimated at anywhere between hundreds of thousands to a million.

Many in the crowd had tears in their eyes.

A eulogy, a farewell

The Mass was both a eulogy and a farewell to a pope whom many admitted was a man of destiny, a powerful molder of history.

The Philippines was represented in the ceremonies by President Macapagal-Arroyo and Cardinals Ricardo Vidal and Jose Sanchez.

Ms Arroyo said the services were moving and touching.

"But beyond the pageantry and the solemnity, what is important is the person," she told the Inquirer. "What is important is the man himself."

Asked to comment on calls to make the Pope a saint, she said, "Let us leave it to the wisdom of the Church."

Many in the Philippine official delegation openly wept when they filed past the coffin and, later, during the necrological services, said Cecile Guidote Alvarez, presidential assistant for the arts.

"We felt purged of grief," she said.

Both Gina de Venecia, wife of Speaker Jose De Venecia, and Ambassador to the Vatican Leonida Vera cried, Alvarez said.

Even Rep. Hermilando Mandanas of Batangas admitted he wept. "This was a man whom everybody loved," he said.

Complex and tedious process

But even without the formal process of canonization, John Paul "is already a saint," said Sister Regina Kuizon, a Filipina Good Shepherd nun and a former journalist based here.

"If that [canonization] is the clamor of the people, then so be it," said Kuizon. "But the life of John Paul is a testimony of sainthood itself. He espoused reconciliation and fellowship among Christians and among religions. We should live those values and, in doing so, he is already canonized."

Kuizon warned that formal canonization is a complex, tedious process. But she said the system had been hastened by new rules laid down by the late Pope himself so that, for example, Mother Teresa was fairly quickly beatified.

Beatification would require a finding that at least one miracle—usually an unexplained medical cure—had taken place as a result of the late Pope's intercession. He would then be known by the title Blessed.

Canonization would require a further miracle at least.

An icon of the sick because of his own illnesses, John Paul was sure to be invoked often in the prayers of the ill.

Many among the mourners believe that the Pope has already deserved the highest accolade the church can bestow.

They compared the Pope's public ordeal as he lost the ability to walk and speak to the martyrdom of the early Christian saints.

The chant to declare the pope a saint immediately was just one among expressions of love for John Paul that made the solemn funeral ceremonies touching and infectious.

Many, in tears, raised and waved their hands as if to bid the Pope goodbye as the bearers carried his coffin from back to St. Peter's Basilica.

When the Pope's coffin was turned around in the direction of the audience, the crowd cried, "Gracie, gracie" (Thank you, thank you).

"It is so solemn and moving," tearfully said Alberta Marinetti, an Italian-American mother of two. "I have attended other affairs but this is the most solemn and most moving."

Josef Mankiewicz, a Polish-Catholic, cried unabashedly and held on to his girlfriend. He later said that the ceremonies were "a powerful religious purgation of grief," especially for Poles who considered John Paul "a brother Pole and a man of humanity."

Love for Filipinos

Filipino priests and religious, also in tears, said they could take comfort in the fact that John Paul had a special regard for the Filipinos.

This was shown, they said, when one of the prayers of the faithful during Mass was read in Tagalog.

"May all the nations be united as a family and a fellowship," the prayer said.

Vidal and Sanchez were among the cardinals who performed the necrological services for the Pope. *AFP*

Senate to ask GMA . . .

From page A1

After failing to make the issue an emergency item in the agenda of the just concluded general assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Senate President Franklin Drilon said it would be up to Ms Arroyo to lead the initiative.

At the sidelines of the IPU assembly, Filipino lawmakers joined their counterparts in Asean in calling for international pressure to prevent Burma from assuming the rotating chairmanship because of the continued detention of Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and the lack of democratic reforms in that country.

The Asean lawmakers agreed that it would not be good for its image to be chaired by Burma, which is ruled by a military junta and whose leaders had refused to release Suu Kyi from house arrest.

The democracy leader and her allies won the elections in 1990, but the junta did not recognize the election results.

Burmese lawmakers-in-exile left Manila in low spirits on Friday, dejected that the issue of Suu Kyi's continued detention had been ignored by the IPU assembly.

"Frankly, we're not very happy about that. It was not included in the major item[s]," said Dr. Tint Swe, who is living in exile in India.

Praise for RP press

Tint and three other exiled Burmese MPs arrived last week with great expectations, partly bolstered by Drilon's promise to lead moves to prevent Burma from chairing Asean next year.

But their hopes were dashed last Sunday when members of the Asean + 3 Group (China, Japan and South Korea) decided to tackle the issue of tsunamis instead as an emergency issue.

Tint, however, said he found comfort in the efforts of legislators from the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore to push for the discussion of the issue during meetings of the Asia-Pacific Group and the IPU committee on human rights.

"Our supporters from the Philippines tried very hard. Supporters from Malaysia also tried very hard. That is very encouraging," he said, and praised the Philippine press for giving prominence to the issue.

According to Drilon, the Burma issue was not included in the official discussions because the IPU agenda was finalized a year ago.

The issue was taken up by the committee on the human rights of parliamentarians in a resolution sent to the IPU governing council, but it was not among the four resolutions that the assembly of more than 1,300 delegates approved at the conclusion of the six-day conference on Friday.

The matter of whether Burma—which was admitted to Asean in 1997—should be allowed to assume the chairmanship is to be decided by the group itself.

Drilon said the Philippines' position was "a matter that the Department of Foreign Affairs and [Ms Arroyo] would have to address, as the executive branch is the chief architect of our foreign policy."

He also said the Senate had a pending resolution expressing its position that Burma should not be allowed to assume the Asean chairmanship, "unless there is a definite timetable for the roadmap to democracy, and the human rights issues are addressed."

Drilon said the Senate resolution would ask Ms Arroyo to take a position against Burma's chairmanship. He said Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo would raise the issue during an informal gathering of Asean foreign ministers in Cebu City this weekend.

Before the assembly's formal opening, Asean parliamentarians adopted a resolution urging the IPU to pressure Burma to institute democratic reforms, including freeing Suu Kyi, before it assumes the chairmanship.

Tint said Friday that the discussions of the issue on the sidelines of the IPU conference and in the Philippine media might have prompted some Asean members, as well as China and India, to reconsider their support for Burma.

"We believe the regime is surviving [on] the support of the Asean bloc, China and India," he said.

But while the situation in Burma was not tackled at the IPU assembly, the issue of Burmese legislators re-arrested and detained by the ruling junta was taken up by the IPU committee on human rights, said IPU secretary general Anders Johnsson.

The committee drafted a resolution urging all parliaments to establish a "pressure group" or caucus that would press for the respect of democracy and human rights, particularly those of parliamentarians in Burma, Johnsson said.

He said this would get a global parliamentary and political campaign underway to address the issue of the parliament in Burma.

The resolution was submitted for approval to the IPU governing council, a plenary body like the IPU assembly that sets policy for the organization. *With a report from Philip C. Tubeza*

Who sat where; even bitter foes shook hands

From page A1

the official IRNA news agency said on Saturday.

Khatami told IRNA: "I strongly deny shaking hands, meeting and talking to the Israeli president."

"This claim is like other baseless claims made by the Zionist media in the past," he said.

Syria's official news agency confirmed that Syrian President Bashar Assad shook hands with Katsav but said it was just a formality, adding that the two leaders did not exchange any words.

Syria is formally at war with Israel.

Sign of peace

The Church invites people at its Masses to offer each other a sign of peace, such as a handshake. Catholics also often exchange words like "Peace be with you."

"I told him 'Good morning' and he shook my hand," Katsav, whose post is largely ceremonial, told Israel's Channel 2 television of his encounter with Assad.

The Iranian-born Katsav also reportedly embraced Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika.

Israel does not have relations with any of the countries.

More than 100 official delegations attended the funeral.

Just making it onto the front row was King Juan Carlos of Spain—Espagne—ahead of the president of the United States—Etats-Unis—in the second.

Charles surprised 'by outcast'

One row back from Bush and Chirac was Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, just two places away from Britain's Prince Charles.

The Prince took the outstretched hand of Mugabe, an outcast according to European protocol.

The handshake between Charles and Mugabe drew criticism from at least two European Union legislators.

A spokesperson for the Prince said Charles, who was seated one place away from Mugabe, was "caught by surprise" when the Zimbabwean leaned over to offer his hand.

The heir to the British throne finds Mugabe's regime "abhorrent," the spokesperson said in response to the criticism of the gesture.

Mugabe sidestepped a EU travel ban—which does not apply to the Vatican—to attend the funeral.

Diplomatic tensions

According to the strict seating protocol, the front row was reserved for monarchs and the presidential delegations from Italy and John Paul's country, Poland.

The funeral also sparked diplomatic tensions. China did not send a delegation due to the Vatican's diplomatic relations with rival Taiwan, whose president, Chen Shui-bian, took advantage of a rare chance to meet other leaders at an international event.

Non-political

Vatican officials said they were satisfied at the mix of princes and presidents, saying the dignitaries clearly felt comfortable in a non-political atmosphere. *AP, Reuters*

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TOP 10 BAR EXAMINEES (above)

Ban the bar; it's not true test for lawyers—Miriam

From page A1

for admission to the bar.

Santiago made the announcement yesterday, the day after the Supreme Court released the list of successful bar examinees for 2004.

Santiago said she would propose that the bar exams be replaced with a National Law School Aptitude Test (NSLAT), taken as a requirement for admission to law school and similar to the National Medical Admission Test for aspiring medicine students. She said there should also be a one-year Legal Internship Program after a law student graduates.

She said the high court conducts the bar exams every year pursuant to a provision in the Constitution granting it the power to promulgate rules governing admission to the practice of law.

"The bar exams is not the best gauge of one's aptitude to practice law because it fails to test the skills needed in the legal profession," said Santiago, who earned her law degree at the University of the Philippines and went on to become a judge, law professor, government official and senator.

Santiago cited results of a recent study titled "Survey of the Legal Profession," conducted by former UP College of Law Dean Merlin Magallona and lawyer Manuel Flores Bonifacio. According to the study, a sizable number of lawyers believes that the bar exams are not a good index of legal competence for the following reasons:

- Passing the bar exams is not an absolute guarantee for the successful practice of law;
- Not all bar topnotchers are good in the practice of law;
- The bar exams is a test of memory and not of competence;
- Examinees are expected to know everything at one time;
- Passing the bar exams are a matter of chance and luck;
- The bar exams is just one index of legal competence; other factors should be considered;
- Actual practice of law is the best index of legal competence.

According to the Supreme Court website, Santiago was admitted to the bar on March 30, 1970, while her husband Narciso, whom she met at the UP College of Law, was never admitted to the bar.

Santiago's son, Alexander Robert, committed suicide more than a year ago, after the UP College of Law admissions committee for school year 2003 denied him entry. *With PDI Research*

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After lifetime of waiting, Charles, Camilla wed

From page A1

ple, police said. Many were foreigners who had come specially for the day.

In comparison, around 600,000 had turned out in London in July 1981 when Charles wed Diana in the domed splendor of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The couple smiled and waved as they emerged arm-in-arm through the red front doors of the Guildhall after the 25-minute ceremony and climbed into a dark Rolls-Royce limousine for the three-minute ride to Windsor Castle, the royal family's weekend residence.

"The sun is shining. The crowds are filling the streets. It's going to be a wonderful day," said Harverson on BBC radio shortly before the nuptials.

Charles and Camilla, both divorcees, were declared man and wife by local registrar Clair Williams inside the Guildhall before 28 specially invited guests and no media at all.

Sons as witnesses

The couple's eldest sons by their previous marriages, Prince William and Tom Parker Bowles, acted as witnesses.

Notable by their absence, however, were the groom's parents, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, who were to be at the grander—and televised—45-minute Anglican service of blessing in St. George's Chapel, within Windsor Castle.

There, Charles and Camilla were due not only to express their love for each other, but also, reading from the stern and uncompromising 1662 Book of Common Prayer, to "acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness."

The mood was set to lighten up at an afternoon reception, also in Windsor Castle, at which more than 700 people had been invited, ranging from continental European royals to the likes of pop star Sting.

The couple were then to slip away to Scotland for a honeymoon on the royal estate of Balmoral.

On-and-off intimate

Charles and Camilla have had an on-and-off intimate relationship going back more than 30 years, and in recent years had effectively lived as man and wife, often appearing together at official functions.

But many still hold the practical, country-loving Camilla responsible for the breakup of Charles' marriage to the glamorous Diana, who died in a Paris car crash in 1997, a year after her divorce from Charles.

Saturday's wedding, originally planned for the day before, was hastily rescheduled in order not to clash with the Vatican funeral of Pope John Paul II, attended by Charles and Prime Minister Tony Blair, one of the guests at Saturday's blessing.

The arrangements were dogged by gremlins from the beginning, with the wedding venue being changed from Windsor Castle to the Guildhall for licensing reasons and Queen Elizabeth opting not to be present when they tied the knot.

A handful of royalty purists lodged objections right up to the wedding day, while a tabloid newspaper exposed security flaws by driving into Windsor Castle in a rented van with a fake bomb inside.

Within the castle's gates, tents had been erected for the world's media which had descended upon the township, while every vantage point, from private balconies to the roof of a local liquor store, had been converted into temporary broadcast locations.

Hotels were fully booked, and souvenir shops were doing a brisk trade in royal wedding mugs and tea towels.

What went before

Charles met Camilla Shand more than 30 years ago, discovering a love of rural life. But he sailed off with the Royal Navy without cementing their relationship. In his absence, she married Andrew Parker Bowles.

In 1981, the prince married 20-year-old Diana Spencer at St. Paul's Cathedral, a storybook wedding watched by thousands.

The young princess won the nation's heart, but she didn't hold her husband's. Charles acknowledged years later that he had broken his marriage vows after the marriage had broken down, and despite his and Diana's efforts to save it.

"There were three of us in that marriage," Diana said later—but she admitted affairs of her own.

Many Britons took Diana's view, vilifying Parker Bowles as a royal homewrecker.

Charles' and Camilla's marriages both collapsed—she was divorced in 1995, he in 1996. Andrew Parker Bowles remarried in 1996, and was on the guest list for Saturday's religious ceremony. *AFP, AP*

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An ear to listen, a voice to counsel

By Fran Katigbak

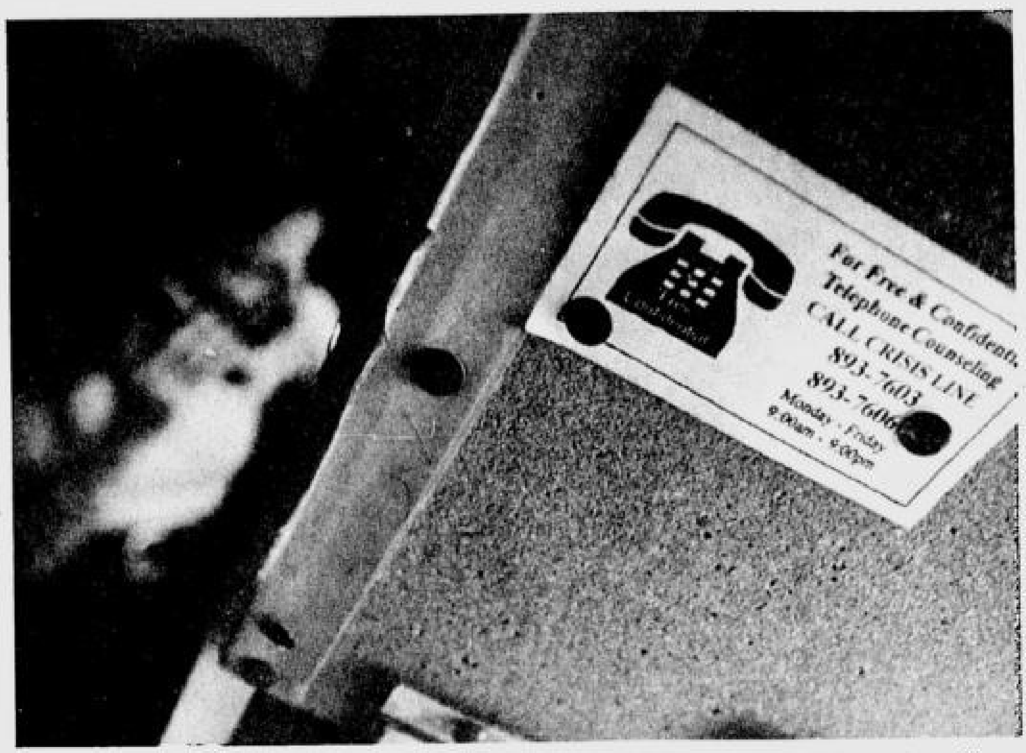
HER RETIREMENT fueled a cause.

At 56, Lina looks forward to more days in the Crisis Line office, where she has a job that does not pay a dime and where she is virtually anonymous.

The telephone counselor is one of the volunteers running a hotline for people who need a compassionate ear to listen to them.

Crisis Line has been in the country for 20 years. It offers both Filipinos and foreigners access to telephone counseling.

The nondenominational program encourages callers, who are assured of anonymity, to talk about a variety of issues like depression, grief and loss, domestic violence, substance abuse, relationship and family problems, rape and sexual assault, school and career difficulties, suicidal tendencies, and other causes of stress.



HELP is just a phone call away with Crisis Line which, for 20 years, has provided counseling on issues like depression, grief and loss, domestic violence, substance abuse, relationship and family problems, rape and sexual assault, school and career difficulties, suicide and stress. REM ZAMORA

Confidential

The counseling hotline, which guarantees confidentiality, is the primary outreach service of In Touch Community Services Inc. (ITCS), established in 1980 initially to help the expatriate community in the Philippines handle cross-cultural problems through counseling and support.

Being nongovernmental and nonprofit-oriented, ITCS relies on fund-raising activities and donations.

The organization also depends mostly on volunteers, locals and foreigners of different cultures, religious affiliations and professional backgrounds.

Prior to joining Crisis Line, Lina was a medical technologist, a professor and an employee in a major government corporation.

She retired in 2000 and used her free time to teach flower arrangement and crafts while taking care of her aging parents.

"I was looking for something to do, something worthwhile," she said.

Driving home one day while listening to her favorite AM station, Lina discovered what she sought. Coordinator Meena Sehwani was on the air, talking about Crisis Line and the volunteer opportunities it offered.

Training

Lina got in touch with the coordinator and underwent training to become a qualified phone counselor.

Training consisted of 15 lecture sessions held 9 a.m.-1 p.m., twice a week, and 96 hours (or 21 times) of practicum with actual phone calls.

"It (training) was like taking a masters degree in psychology," said Lina. "But it came at the right time."

Her father passed away just as the seminars began. What she learned from the sessions helped her cope with the grief and feeling of loss.

"Crisis Line develops counseling skills by using the counselors' own life experience and situations (and how they dealt with the crises)," explained Sehwani. "That becomes an asset they can use in counseling others."

Lina did not immediately recognize that asset.

Although very interested in volunteer work and willing to complete the extensive training, she was less enthusiastic about the phone calls.

Scared

"I wanted to chicken out," she confessed. "I was scared of getting a call from a suicidal (person) or a rape victim. *Parang nakakanerbiyos.*"

To guarantee that she wouldn't back out, Lina signed up for volunteer work the week after she completed her training.

A total of 10 calls greeted her on her first day. As a new volunteer, she worked with a more experienced phone counselor. A coordinator stayed with them to supervise the conversations.

"Our first caller asked for a Tagalog-speaking counselor," she said. "My partner was a Dane, so I had no choice but to take it.

"When the call ended, I realized it felt good to have helped lighten someone's load. The experience wasn't intimidating at all."

Since then, Lina has looked forward to each day at Crisis Line, unmindful if the calls were "heavy" or "difficult to end."

"Once I had a caller burdened by so many problems that he wanted to commit suicide," Lina said. "So I asked him, 'How do you plan to do it?'"

He did not plan on *how* to kill himself, the man replied. Lina said the question caught him by surprise and made him realize he did not want to take his own life.

Other calls were difficult to end, said the phone counselor. Some people found it difficult to get a sense of closure from just an hour's conversation.

Other callers antagonized her or tested her patience, but she learned not to be affected by them.

"Everything should end when you put the receiver down," said Lina.

"In all my 96 hours of practicum, I haven't had problems about taking my issues and emotional baggage to work," she said. "I even chose the morning shift so that I would be clear-headed and free of problems."

Asked how long she planned to do the volunteer work, the soft-spoken wife and mother said, "Until I'm unable to walk up the stairs to the office."

Crisis Line's training was valuable in developing the right state of mind for phone counselors like Lina.

"We were taught not to be judgmental, and to help callers process their problems," she said. "But a counselor should not give solutions."

The caller, she explained, was the only person who knew all the details of his/her problem and was therefore the only one capable of finding the best option or solution for it.

As for what made an effective counselor, she believed commitment was the most important.

"Volunteers are ministers," Lina said. "They give help, time, and a part of themselves without expecting anything in return."

Anyone who goes into volunteer work should be motivated by one reason alone—to help others, she said. "As it says [in Crisis Line's fliers], 'there's help on the other line.'"

Crisis Line may be reached 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at 893-7603 or 893-7606.

Cops arrest 9 suspects in QC antidrug raid

POLICE arrested on Friday night six men and three women caught in an antidrug operation in Quezon City.

The suspects were nabbed while transferring hundreds of bottles of liquid ketamine hydrochloride into water containers inside 46 Hilario Moncado St., BF Homes, Barangay Holy Spirit.

Seized during the raid were 46 boxes and several containers of liquid ketamine, assorted chemicals used in the manufacture of shabu, a plastic sachet of suspected shabu and various drug paraphernalia.

Authorities identified those arrested as Cesar Valenzuela, 54; Roban Valenzuela, 28; Aloy Tuquero, 27; Ernes Bautista, 38; Ryan Ramirez, 26; Lino dela Cruz, 24; Theresa Ormita, 26; Claire Valenzuela, 25, and Ma. Fe Mendoza, 25, who is pregnant.

SPO1 Reginald Nazareno said a buy-bust operation led to the discovery.

"The operatives were in hot pursuit of a drug pusher who ran into the house (where the drugs were found)," Nazareno said.

He said policemen became suspicious of the place because of a foul odor coming from the house.

Nazareno said the estimated street value of a bottle of liquid ketamine was P2,200.

Ketamine is an anesthetic drug, but is abused and used in rave parties.

According to the United States Alcohol and Drug Information website, solid ketamine is sometimes sold as Ecstasy.

Roban Valenzuela said they were paid 25 centavos for every small bottle of the drug that they transferred into blue water containers. A box of liquid ketamine contained 600 bottles.

He said any one of them could earn as much as P2,500 a day.

When asked who owned the seized drugs, Roban said they did not know the Chinese-looking men because their names were hard to pronounce.

"We just call them boss," he said. *Nancy C. Carvajal*

Janitor falls off building in Manila

By Tina G. Santos

A 27-YEAR-OLD janitor died after falling off a building in Manila late Friday afternoon.

Teddy Realo, of Hornet Street, Palar Armor Village, Makati City, died while undergoing treatment at the Ospital ng Maynila due to severe head injuries, police said.

SPO3 Patrick Claudio de Leon said the incident happened at about 6 p.m. at the Land Bank Plaza at the corner of M.H. Del Pilar and Quintos Streets, Malate.

With a co-worker

Investigation showed that Realo and co-worker Joel Balajadia, 19, were on the sixth floor parking lot of the building prior to the incident.

Balajadia told police that he was chasing Realo, as they were apparently teasing each other, when the latter stood on the building's edge.

Without any apparent provocation, Realo allegedly jumped, police said.

Authorities said they would be digging deeper into the incident to verify the claim of Balajadia that Realo deliberately jumped.

UPIS BATCH '80
Members of the University of the Philippines Integrated School Batch 1980 recently held its kick-off event—an adventure race—at the UPIS grounds to mark its Silver Jubilee Celebration and the launch of its "Kabang Talento at Talino" fund for gifted children. Several other events are lined up for the year, capped by a grand reunion in December to which all UPIS alumni are invited. More information can be sought from Batch '80 Foundation president Atty. Senen de Santos at 813-3351 to 54.

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Fees are inclusive of handouts and snacks. Discounts are given to groups, early bird registrants and DLSAA members.

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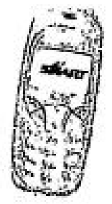
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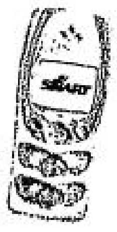
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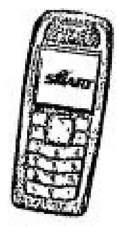
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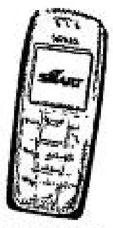
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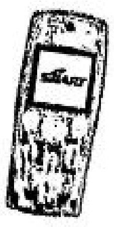
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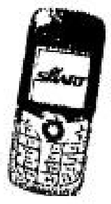
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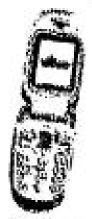
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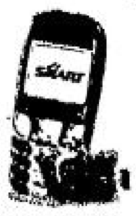
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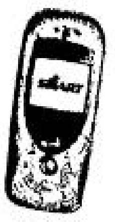
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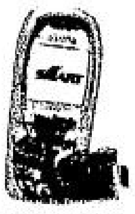
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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

CHRIS DiMarco waves after making a par on the 1st hole. AP

3 share Masters lead

AUGUSTA, Georgia—Storm clouds surrounded Augusta National on Friday with the US Masters second round barely starting and Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh becoming involved in a war of words over spike marks. *(Related story on page A28.)*

When play was finally suspended for the day because of the threat of thunderstorms and lightning, British Ryder Cup players David Howell and Luke Donald and American Chris DiMarco held the early lead at five under par 67.

Howell made a fast start to round two with five birdies in his first seven holes. His fellow Masters debutante Donald had completed two holes and first-round leader DiMarco just one.

Defending champion Mickelson, after an opening 70, and world number one Singh, whose 68 was his best start at Augusta National in 12 appearances, were among 15 players in the 91-strong field yet to tee off in the second round.

However, the pair had earlier shared a verbal spat when 2000 champion Singh complained to tournament officials that Mickelson's golf shoes had caused spike marks on the 12th green.

Organizers said play would resume at 8:30 local (1200 GMT) on Saturday, with a favorable weekend forecast.

This is the third time in the last four years second-round play at Augusta National has spilled over into the third day.

Howell, a member of Europe's triumphant Ryder Cup team at Oakland Hills last September, produced red-hot form in overcast afternoon conditions after completing a level-par 72 earlier in the day.

The 29-year-old Englishman reeled off birdies on 10, his first hole, 11, 13, 15 and 16 before play was suspended at 12:40 local time.

Three-time winner Tiger Woods, chasing his first major title since the 2002 US Open, had to settle for a two-over-par 74 after a roller-coaster ride over his last six holes.

Ernie Els scored 75. *Reuters*

FedEx, Alaska collide

ASSUMING the locals cancel each other out, the import match-up will be the key when the FedEx Express take on the Alaska Aces today in the 2005 Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference at the Araneta Coliseum.

FedEx mentor Bong Ramos and Alaska head coach Tim Cone shared the same sentiment that Anthony Miller and Dickey Simpkins would spell the difference in their 4:15 p.m. clash.

"It will be a battle of imports out there," said Ramos after the Express bounced back from a stinging defeat against the Barangay Ginebra Kings by dismantling the Talk 'N Text Phone Pals the other night.

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4:15 p.m.—Alaska vs FedEx
6:35 p.m.—Barangay-Ginebra vs San Miguel Beer

Meanwhile, San Miguel aims to strengthen its hold of the top spot when the Beermen meet the Gin Kings in the other match at 6:35 p.m.

The Beermen (5-2) secured the solo lead after trouncing the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs in an out-of-town sortie Thursday.

Sporting a second-running 4-3 slate, the Kings are seeking to dislodge the Beermen to keep their winning run going after slipping past the Express and the Sta. Lucia Realtors.

Miller, a former LA Laker in the NBA, came up with his best output in the conference by collecting 30 points and 17 rebounds against the Phone Pals, who are now tied with the Express at 3-3.

Simpkins, who played with Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls in the '90s, was also impressive when he helped the Aces subdue the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs exactly a week ago.

"He (Simpkins) is not as mobile as before but the moves are still there. He really knows the game and his experience rubs off on the rest of the team," said Cone.

Mike Cortez, Brandon Cablay and Jeffrey Cariaso form a potent chemistry in the backcourt that the Aces hope to exploit against the Express in a bid to notch a third victory in seven games.

"When Mike came back from the injury list last conference, we won six games in a row. He's a big leader. With Mike around, we don't have to extend Brandon at the point," said Cone.

What the Express need to bottle up Alaska's backcourt trio is another consistent showing from Renren Ritualo and Wesley Gonzales and Roger Yap's aggressiveness in defense.

"I hope Wesley becomes consistent. We're staring at a tough match-up against the Aces and it will be much tougher if these guys fail to do what's expected of them," said Ramos.

The Aces are fresh from a week-long rest.

"The week off helped us. It gave us enough time to focus more on the mechanics of our game and get our motors back," said Cone. *June Navarro*

Scoop to fete RP Olympians

BOXERS Anthony Villanueva and Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco head the illustrious list of former Olympians who will be honored during the Scoop Awards rites on Thursday at Banquet A of the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club in Mandaluyong City

Villanueva ended up runner up in the featherweight division in boxing in the 1964 Tokyo conclave, while Velasco matched the feat in the lightfly class 32 years later in Atlanta.

They will lead 11 Olympians who'll receive a "Lifetime Achievement Award."

Felipe Nunag, another boxer, and basketball player Charles Borck, the only two survivors of the 1936 Berlin Games, lead those who will be bestowed special recognition.

Surviving Olympians who have not received their invitations can call Chris Magboo at 813-2051 or Etheljune at 522-0456 or 521-2692.

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May 7-8, 2005	Rounds 3 and 4	Zhuhai, China
June 18-19, 2005	Rounds 5 and 6	Zhuhai, China
August 20-21, 2005	Rounds 7 and 8	Sentul, Indonesia
September 17-18, 2005	Rounds 9 and 10	Sentul, Indonesia
November 5-6, 2005	Rounds 11 and 12	Batangas Racing Circuit, Philippines

Map to Batangas Racing Circuit
Note: Map is not drawn to scale.
1. Take South Super Highway exit to Batangas City.
2. Follow the new Star Tollway to Lipa City (Entry is near First Philippine Industrial Park)
3. Take the Tambo exit along the Star Tollway.

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Engine2	Formula 3 engine during race
Engine3	Multiple cars zooming by
F3	Single car shifting up gears
Flyby1	Car passing start-finish line
Flyby2	Car accelerating out of a corner
Flyby3	Single car zooming by (far)
Flyby4	Single car zooming by (near)
Rev	Up-close shifting of gears

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Welcoat gains lead share

MAGNOLIA's Joel Co and Nenaco's James Timonera fight for the loose ball. AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

GAMES TUESDAY *(FEU Gym)*
2 p.m.—Toyota Otis vs Harbour Centre
4 p.m.—Montaña vs Magnolia

By Jasmine W. Payo

WELCOAT-St. Benilde weathered Toyota Otis-Letran's second-half rally to salvage a 72-66 triumph in the PBL Unity Cup yesterday at the Makati Coliseum.

Tied at 64-64, forward Leo Najorda buried a three-pointer to give the Paintmasters the lead for good with 50 seconds left.

Jay-A Coching scored 15 of his 19 points beyond the arc to pace Welcoat. Anthony Washington notched 16 points and 13 rebounds after struggling in his first outing.

"We really have a lot of shooters and anyone can step up at any given time," said coach Caloy Garcia after Welcoat joined Montaña at the top with its second straight win.

In the second game, Magnolia Ice Cream cruised to an 83-52 victory over Nenaco-San Beda for its first win in two outings.

"The energy and the enthusiasm are back," said Banal. "The signs are there, this team wants to win," said coach Koy Banal of the Wizards, who bounced back from their heartbreaking 63-62 loss to Toyota Otis in their opening game.

Forward Neil Rañeses shot 12 points to lead the Wizards' attack.

Welcoat raced to a 42-29 halftime lead behind Coching and Washington, but Emerson Oreta opened the third quarter with back-to-back triples to ignite the Toyota comeback.

The Knights first pulled to within four points, 45-41, staged a 12-2 run to cut the deficit by a point, 57-56, and went on to tie it at 64-64 with 1:38 left.

After Najorda broke the tie with his only fourth-quarter field goal, the Paintmasters canned five of their six free throws in the dying seconds.

Magnolia opened the second quarter with a 14-0 outburst that pushed its advantage to 20 points, 32-12, after a slim 18-12 lead in the first period.

Nenaco-San Beda, which dropped its second straight game, shot a meager 28 percent from the field. The taller Wizards also outrebounded the Lions, 56-35.

The scores:

First game

MAGNOLIA 83—Rañeses 12, Miranda 10, Yabut 10, Santos 9,Isip 7, Barcellano 7, Misolas 5, Co 5, Caceres 5, Catli 4, Razon 3, Jones 2, Rizada 2, Williams 2, Chan 0.

NENACO 52—Aljamal 16, Paterno 12, Soriano 8, Angales 3, Arbole 3, Hudencial 3, Yousif 2, Antonio 2, Maggay 2, Cruz 1, Timonera 0, De Guzman 0, Ong 0, Baldivia 0, Gutiban 0.**Quarters:** 18-12, 42-22, 69-36, 83-52.

Django strikes in Bali, bags P.68M

FILIPINO pool wizard Francisco "Django" Bustamante downed Mika "Iceman" Immonen of Finland, 11-10, in the finals to win the A Mild International Open late Friday at Paradiso Bowling and Billiard Center in Bali, Indonesia.

The victory was worth $12,500 (about P680,000) for the former world No. 1 in prize money and appearance fee in the tournament participated in by top Asian cue artists and some of the world's best.

But Immonen made sure the Filipino earned every penny of it. Trailing for most part of the match, Immonen staged a late comeback and caught Bustamante at 10-all.

Breaking for the match, Immonen pocketed two balls and left the red three hanging near the pocket. But the player known around the world pool circuit as the "Iceman" melted after a bad setup on No. 4.

Bustamante opted for a safety shot, which proved to be brilliant as Immonen blundered on his turn to leave Django with an easy chance to clean up.

Earlier, Bustamante waylaid Vietnamese upstart Luong Chi Dung, 9-2, and Immonen routed Ming Chuhung of Chinese Taipei, 9-1, in the semifinals.

Bustamante's semifinal prey had earlier eliminated his compatriots Efren "Bata" Reyes and Lee Van Corteza.

It was Bustamante's second major triumph in the region after his topping the Hope P1-Million All-Filipino Billiards Open last February at the LSN2 Studio 13. He beat reigning champ Alex "The Lion" Pagulayan, 15-13, in the finals and received $9,280 in the event organized by Jemah TV president Marc Roces and Puyat Sports boss Aristeo G. Puyat.

Bustamante also pocketed $8,000 in topping the Weert Open 10-ball Ring Game last January. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Labajo up by 4 shots

CALATAGAN, Batangas—Mario Labajo shot a one-under-par 71 yesterday to take a four-stroke lead after 18 holes of the first Calatagan Amateur Open here. A product of the National Caddies' Open program, the 34-year-old Mario turned in nines of 36-35 to lead veteran Abe Rosal and younger brother Joseph, who both turned in 75s with one round left.

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Wheelchair can't confine Markelein's fighting heart

MARKELEIN (right) gives Filipino wheelchair racer Judy Alferes tips in proper mounting and movement.

ERROL Markelein knows how it feels to have a competitive spirit confined in a bulky contraption.

The six-time gold medalist in the Seoul Paralympics, who lost movement in his lower limbs after a car accident 30 years ago, took up sports as part of his rehabilitation but found that the wheelchair he used was too big and heavy for his standards.

And this posed a problem.

"The wheelchair to the orthopedically disabled is like the feet of an able-bodied person," said the German, also the European handbiking champion. "The wheelchair is part of our body. Without the wheelchair, we become immobile."

This gave birth to the Sopour Wheelchair manufacturing in 1979. Since then, the 48-year-old Marklein has dedicated himself to developing the perfect harmony between man and machine, an undertaking that led to his winning six gold medals in the 1988 Seoul Paralympics.

Marklein's talent for endurance sports, mental strength and commitment earned for him the time trial title in the Open European Handcycling category B (paraplegic athletes).

He came to Manila last week to donate a titanium basketball wheelchair All Court Ti to the Philippine Sports Association for the Differently Abled (Philspada). He also conducted clinics for the 7th Philippine Wheelchair Basketball League and the Philippine ASEAN Paragames athletics team. A neck injury forced Marklein to retire from competition, but he made a comeback and won in the 1994 New York Marathon.

Marklein is now vice president for Advanced Engineering at Sunrise Medical. His visit was arranged by TEAM Ventures Inc. president and Philspada secretary general Emmanuel Penson in cooperation with Philippine Paragames Organizing Committee president Michael Barredo and Philspada OIC Louie Arellano.

Lhuillier halts Jets' streak

SOUTHEAST Asian Games contender RP-Cebuana Lhuillier blasted Vice Mayor and actor/TV host Anjo Yllana's Parañaque Jets, 114-88, Friday night to remain unbeaten in the Spring Cooking Oil-NBC final north pre-season basketball series at the PJL gym in Las Piñas.

Former UST standout Don Rez Villamin scattered 23 points to power the Jean Henri Lhuillier-backed Nationals to their third straight victory while halting the Jets' three-game winning run.

Despite the loss, the Jets still managed to earn a shot at RP-Cebuana Lhuillier for the title at 6 p.m. today at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Earlier, Bacoor Vice Mayor Edwin Malvar's Cavite Insurers turned back Laguna Spring, 82-74, to arrange a meeting with Mayor Freddie Tinga's Forward Taguig for third place in the BAP-sanctioned series at 4 p.m. today.

"They played a very inspired game," said coach Boysie Zamar of the Nationals, who are preparing for the 2005 SEAG set in Manila late this year.

High-flying veteran Ruben dela Rosa and Jeffrey Bombeo also sparkled for RP-Cebuana Lhuillier with 20 and 17 points, respectively.

NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla (3rd from left) and Panasonic-Philippines president Rodolfo Perez seal their deal with a handshake. From left are Dan Noveno, Paranaque project director; Panasonic marketing/communications head Darwin Banez, Panasonic battery sales department head Joey de Jesus and NBC sales director South Cipriano Galo.

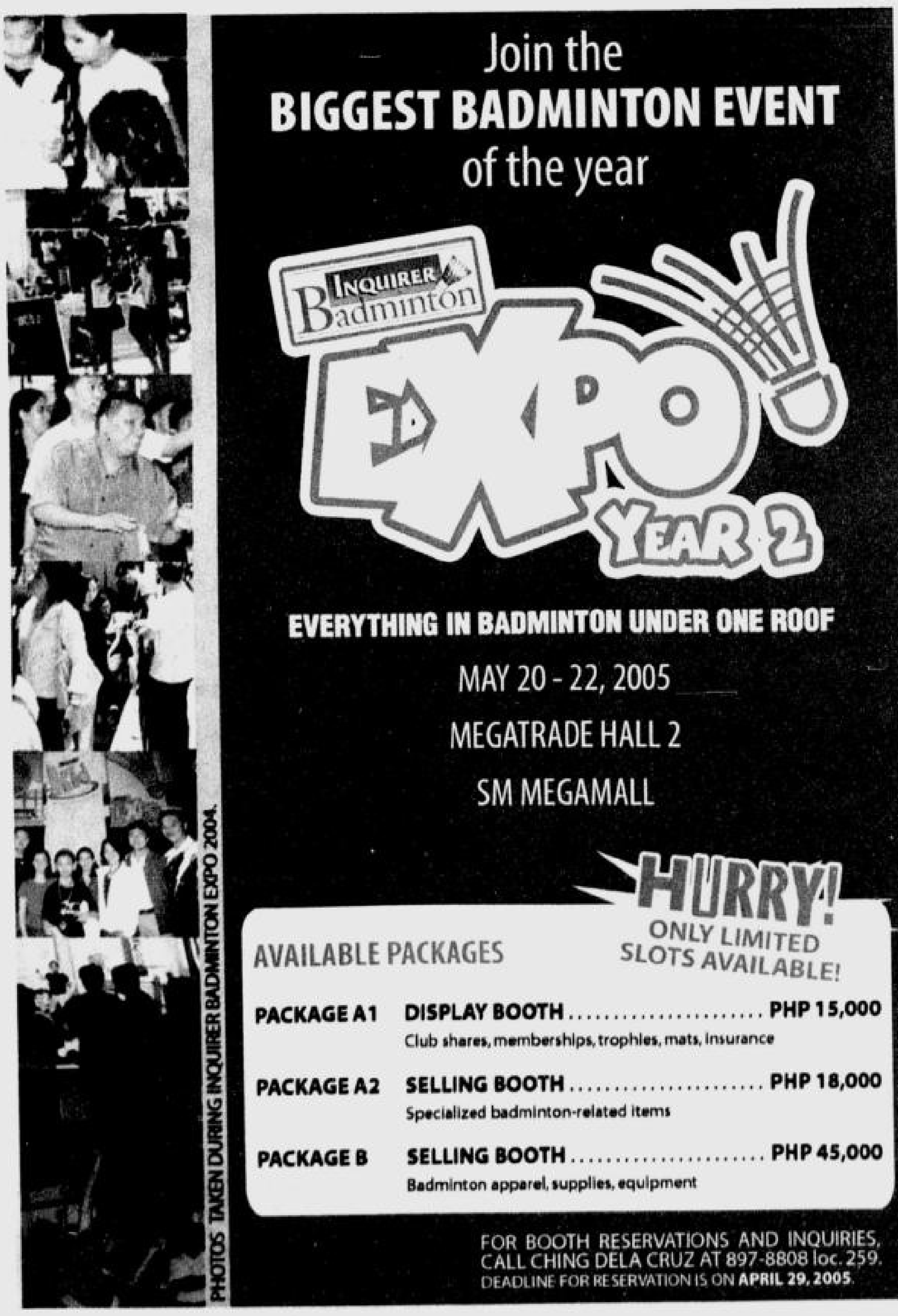
NBC nat'l tourney gets boost

PANASONIC Philippines has formalized its tie-up with the National Basketball Conference for the staging of NBC's national championship starting on April 23 at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Panasonic-Phils. president Rodolfo Perez signed the contract with NBC head Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and secretary general Tito Palma, making the giant electronic company the title sponsor for the 2005 NBC tournament last Friday at Bayview Park Hotel.

"As a company, we have our social responsibilities and we feel that our partnership with NBC is our way of contributing to sports development," said Perez, who was accompanied by two other officials—marketing communications head Darwin Banez and battery sales manager Joey de Jesus. "Through NBC's region-based teams, we hope to tap new talents and, at the same time, get the youth involved in sports."

Panasonic-Phils. will also be the title sponsor of an invitational event to be staged by the BAP-sanctioned league after its regular season. The top four teams will compete in the series together with RP-Cebuana Lhuillier and teams from Chinese-Taipei, Japan and Korea. Bayview Park Hotel sales and marketing director Marie Jean Paraiso Cordero also signed a contract with NBC, sealing the hotel's partnership with the regional league.



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Real Spicy hot pick in 'Road' leg today

By **Edwin Villanueva**, *Contributor*

AFTER last week's hard-earned win, now comes an easy task for Real Spicy.

Without Speed Advantage to contend with, Hermie Esguerra's in-form galloper is the hands-down pick to win the 2nd leg of the 2005 Road to Triple Crown series today at the Santa Ana Park.

But ace jockey Pat Dilema, seeing this afternoon's trip as just another ordinary outing for the 2004 Champion Juvenile Colt, said there is no room for overconfidence.

"*Magagaling din naman yung mga makakalaban niya at apat din ang mga paa 'nun* (He'll be facing worthy rivals just the same and they, too, have four legs)," said the 26-year-old Dilema, who has been Real Spicy's partner in his last 13 runs.

Two other colts and two fillies are challenging the hot favorite in the 1,600-meter contest where the first placer gets P450,000, second placer P168,750, third placer P93,750 and fourth placer P37,500.

They are War Alert, Real Spicy's coupled bet; Golden Fantasy, In Command and Vivere.

Real Spicy leaned on his big fighting heart and Dilema's riding brilliance to nose out Speed Advantage in the Crown Prince Abdulaziz Cup last April 3 at San Lazaro.

It was the closest victory pulled off so far by the son of US stallion Real Quiet in his young and brilliant career.

The nerve-frazzling win over Speed Advantage kept Real Spicy's unbeaten record of six straight triumphs at the Carmona, Cavite, track intact.

That also prompted Esguerra to declare that Speed Advantage should be a worthy rival for Real Spicy in the coming hostilities among 3-year-old horses. "It should be a great rivalry for all racing fans to see," he said.

Over at the Makati race venue, Real Spicy has a 4-win, 3-loss slate in eight starts. He tasted his latest setback there in the Chairman's Cup won by Speed Advantage.

In the first leg of the series serving as run-up to this year's Triple Crown hostilities, Speed Advantage beat Real Spicy's stablemate, Euro Bucks. The 2005 TC Series blasts off with the P1.7-million Cojuangco Cup on May 22, also at Santa Ana Park.

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Race 4-1. Straight Free 2. High Class 3. Mr. Victory 4. Da Mik Mok 5. Inca
Race 5-1. Real Black 2. Tini Bambini 3. Farragut's Order 4. Gigi's Gold
Race 6-1. El Cid 2. Magic Ewan Ko 3. Samahan 4. Dennis D Menace 5. Classic Model
Race 7-1. Real Spicy/War Alert 2. Golden Fantasy
Race 8-1. Court General 2. Fine Offer 3. Last Hazm 4. Galaxy Wars
Race 9-1. Ahoy My Boy 2. Boxster 3. Aya's Star 4. Sir Pierre 5. Sanry Forex
Race 10-1. Hakuna Matata 2. Blue Sheikh 3. Manila Slew
Race 11-1. Collective Dreams 2. Pasirit 3. Kambal 4. Dark Beat 5. Last Dance
Race 12-1. Silver Eagle 2. Skip Away 3. Windy City 4. The Strategist
Race 13-1. Semper Spirit 2. Thywillbedone 3. Paramount 4. Oliver Sun Joy 5. Cat's Gold 6. San Diego Force

Valley hosts Tuason Cup

INVITED players to the 6th Don Celso Tuason and Valley Founders Memorial Cup will find a beauty to behold as the Valley Golf and Country Club in Antipolo vowed to put the newly renovated South course in its best shape for the member-guest tournament on April 14-17.

Club president Joe Feliciano and organizing committee head Bobon Topacio are making sure that the Valley south lives up to its billing as one of the best local courses. Smart Communications is the presenting sponsor of the event while and Arms Corp. and Pacsports are major sponsors.

Premium sponsors DHL/Wide Wide World Express, GMA 7, Wyeth Nutritionals, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Enriquez Security Services, GG&A Club Shares, Rudy Project, Makati Skyline, Nescafe Gold, Oriental Assurance Corp., Gakken Phils., Immuvit-Pascual Lab, Taisho Pharmaceuticals-Lipovitan, Caltex, Pisanti Golf, ABS-CBN, Sara Lee Phils., Glaxo Smithkline, Sunbolt Sports Drink and Splash Corp. For inquiries call 6584901 to 03.

INVITATIONAL

MANILA Southwoods chair Robert John Sobrepeña (second from right) and special guests Mitsubishi Motors CEO and president Kengo Takase, Royal Caribbean president Marilen Yaptangco, former Carmona Mayor Roy Loyola, and Diamond Motors president George Blaylock hit simultaneous drives to start the Invitational golf tournament.

Recto-Roy pair leads Southwoods tourney

CARMONA, Cavite—Ricky Recto and Jose Roy III assembled a total team net 135 points and emerged as co-leaders in Group A heading into today's final round of the Invitational golf tournament at the Manila Southwoods Golf and Country Club here.

Recto's six-under par 66 and Roy's 69 at the Legends course allowed them to surge ahead in the top division in the annual 2-man team event along with the partnerships of Indren Naidoo-Brij Pande and Nicolas Camcam-Donato Flor.

In Group B, the duo of Gil Domingo and Lito Abad, last year's overall winner, launched their bid for a second straight plum with 129 points, three strokes over erstwhile leader Stephen Liao.

So far, nobody has won any of the P7 million worth of holes-in-one prizes that include a Mitsubishi Lancer GLX, an eight-day/seven-night Royal Caribbean cruise plus Korean Air tickets, a 4-day/3-night El Nido Resort vacation package, a Wilson irons set and a Club Car DS golf cart.

All these prizes, except the golf cart, would be raffled if no one scores an ace in the four-day affair that has Mitsubishi Motors, Diamond Motors, Royal Caribbean International, Korean Air, Samsung and Wilson Sports as presenters. Turf Company, Globe and Nestlé are major sponsors.

Arlette Dizon and national pool member Lina de Guzman are now on top in Class C.

Romance in a cup of tea

A sexual act is an excellent form of exercise. Using almost all of your muscles, it burns up to 300 calories an hour which is almost equivalent to 15 minutes of walking in the treadmill. Studies also show that engaging in a loving, intimate relationship through rewarding and regular intercourse improves the well-being of a person. It makes one feel younger, less irritable and happy because of the endorphins and oxytocin released during the blissful activity of making love. These naturally occurring chemicals serve as natural opiates that act as pain and anxiety killers.

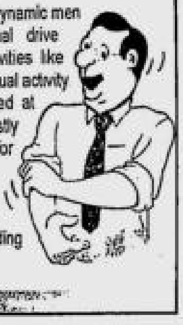
But as men age, their sexual capacity is lessened. Add to that the stress they get from their surroundings and their relationships will be doomed. They will often feel tired. Ergo, they will have less urge to engage in intimate moments with their partners. But then again, science understands the needs of men. From the makers of the well-established slimming tea for women Kankunis comes yet another breakthrough product **Honey Moon Tea, Love Potion for Men** is the answer to men's sexual drive problems. Made from natural ingredients carefully researched to solve erectile dysfunctions, increase sexual desire and prolong orgasms-this tea does not need any prescription at all.

Honey Moon Tea is a concoction of traditional Chinese herbs *Herba Epimedu, Herba Cynomoru, Woodwardia Japonica, Fructus Polygalea, Yang Gong Cao, Radix Polygalea, Semen Astragali Complanati, Radix Ginseng and Pilose Antler.* The potion promotes endocrine regulation to help lengthen sexual climax by empowering the body's metabolism during intercourse.

Mixed in the right proportion, the herbs are also known to help improve the immune system of the body and reinforce the functions of the liver and the kidney. The herbs also have curative benefits and help rid off free-radicals in the body. *Herba Epimedu, Herba Cynomoru* and *Woodwardia Japonica* also contain saponins and glycosides which are known as body-building agents that strengthen the bones and the muscles. *Radix Polygalea* invigorates the kidney and the spleen. *Semen Astragali Complanati* improves the eyesight. *Fructus Polygalea* and *Yang Gong Cao* are known as anti-inflammatory agents for pharyngitis. These are also used traditionally as sedative, expectorant, and resuscitating agent. The famous *Radix Ginseng* which is considered a male aphrodisiac is a tonic herb that athletes use to combat stress. The *Pilose Antler* contains sex hormones, estrone and estranediol which helps the sexual glands to secrete more for longer erection of the male genitalia.

Advisable for men from their 30s and up **Honey Moon Tea** is also for dynamic men who want to intensify their sexual activities through improved sexual drive and for men who need extra stamina for prolonged physical activities like sports. It is to be consumed at least 10-15 minutes before the sexual activity It is available in tin boxes with 30 sachets each. Modestly priced at ₱2,100 per box, it is a better alternative than resorting to costly chemically-produced medicines which have harmful side effects for the body.

Honey Moon Tea, Love Potion for Men is exclusively distributed by **REJ Diamond Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** and is now available in all leading drugstores and supermarkets.



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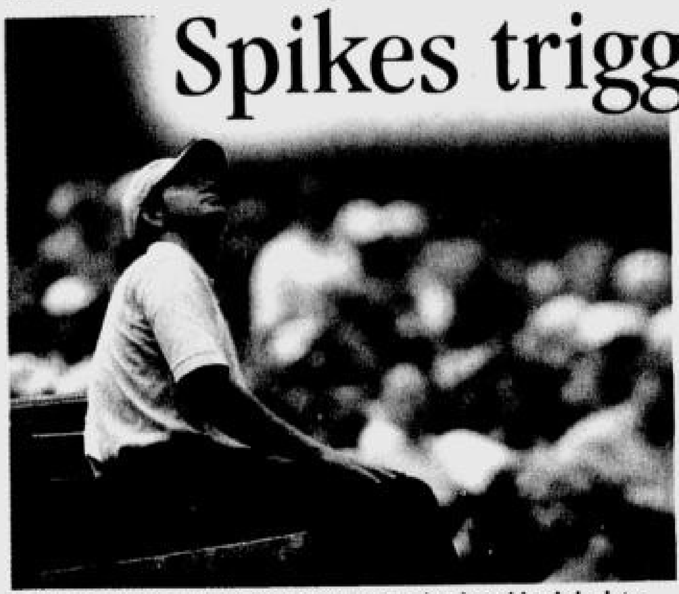
Spikes trigger Phil-Vijay confrontation



ON A day when players like Retief Goosen (top) could only look to the heavens and hope for better weather, much of the action took place in the locker room, where Phil Mickelson (opposite photo) and Vijay Singh engaged in a verbal joust. AP

AUGUSTA, Georgia—Vijay Singh didn't like following in Phil Mickelson's footsteps at the Masters on Friday.

A complaint about spike marks led to a confrontation in the locker room between the two Masters champions after Singh told rules officials that the metal cleats in Mickelson's shoes were too long.

Mickelson had to stop on the 13th fairway and show an official the bottom of his shoes. And when he heard Singh talking about his spikes during the rain delay, he decided to confront him.

"He expressed his concerns. I expressed my disappointment with the way it was handled," Mickelson said in a statement. "I believe everything is fine now."

Singh played in the group behind the defending Masters champion.

They resumed the first round on the par-3 12th, the scariest hole at Augusta. Mickelson hit his tee shot into 5 ft and made birdie, going to 3 under par. Singh hit his tee shot to about 25 ft on the same line and two-putted for par.

Mickelson offered an apology, but was angry about the timing of being stopped by two officials on one hole.

"They were sent by Vijay to check my spikes because he felt they were unduly damaging the greens," Mickelson said. "If that's the case, I am very apologetic and will make every effort to tap down what spike marks I may make in the future. However, I was extremely distracted and would have appreciated if it would have been handled differently."

Mickelson said more than one-third of the field is using metal spikes, especially because of the wet conditions.

Singh contacted a rules official while putting on the 12th green.

"He said on the 12th hole that someone in the group in front was tracking the green with his shoes," said Steve Rintoul, a US PGA Tour rules official working the Masters. "When he looked at where the track was going, he figured out it was Phil."

Mickelson hit his tee shot down the left side of the 13th fairway, and a rules official met him off the tee. Mickelson showed him his soles, one then the other. The official nodded, and Lefty kept walking.

Rintoul said another official on the 13th green watched for abnormal footprints, and found there was no problem.

But the debate apparently didn't end there.

Mickelson and Singh, the 2000 Masters winners, were in the champions locker room during the rain delay when they had it out.

"After sitting in the locker (room) for a while, I heard Vijay talking to other players about it and I confronted him," Mickelson said. AP

PHIL Mickelson's roun
spiked with a controve
surrounding the spikes
his shoes.

TM tilt shifts to Pasig

PRE-QUALIFYING tournaments for the TM 9-Ball Champions League get even bigger when the event shifts to four venues in Pasig today.

Congressman Dodot Jaworski leads the hunt for the young faces who would succeed Bata Reyes and Django Bustamante.

Jaworski will be personally on hand to supervise the event scattered around the city with games set at the covered courts of Pinagbuhatan-Damayan, Santolan, PLP, and Ugong.

Registration starts at 10 a.m. and games will be played until 4p.m.

The four finalists from each venue will proceed to the Ugong Covered Courts, where a fiesta-style party at 5 p.m. precedes the championship.

Cash prizes totaling P22,000 will also be given away.

Since last week, Jaworski has visited billiard halls in Pasig to invite residents to join the competition and support the league.

Dancers, entertainers and a 3-piece band will entertain guests at the Ugong Covered courts. Parlor games, sponsored by Touch Mobile, will also be held for the spectators and non-billiard players.

The Pasig qualifying is the second in the roster of events lined up by Rocketman Inc. of Ramon Tuason, who organized the TM 9-Ball Champions League, which is backed by Touch Mobile and Accel.

The first qualifying was held in Urdaneta, Pangasinan, on Friday and participated in by close to a hundred cue artists who sought to make the Pangasinan team and vie for the P1-million overall prize.

Aside from Jaworski and Cojuangco, other personalities acting as team managers for their respective cities and provinces are singer and city councilor Rico Puno for Makati; basketball agent Sam Unera and Parañaque vice mayor Anjo Yllana for Parañaque; Manila Sports Council (Masco) Chair Arnold "Ali" Atienza for Manila; and Gov. Ireneo "Ayong" Maliksi for Cavite.

The event will be telecast over IBC-13 starting April 28 and every Thursday and Friday thereafter. Telecast time is at 9:30-10:30 p.m.

76ers sweep Cavs

Lakers end slide; Kings tab playoff slot

PHILADELPHIA—Allen Iverson had 23 points and a career-high 16 assists to help the 76ers sweep the season series against Cleveland with a 103-98 victory Friday night and leapfrog the Cavaliers into seventh place in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

Samuel Dalembert had 23 points and 16 rebounds, and Marc Jackson scored 24 points for the Sixers. Chris Webber missed his fourth straight game with a sprained left shoulder.

Iverson sprained both his thumbs against the Cavaliers and said it affected his shot all game. It was hard to tell when Iverson hit a jumper with 8.5 seconds left that gave the Sixers a needed cushion.

"As soon as it left my hand, I knew it was good," said Iverson, who shot 9-for-30. "Even with my hand hurting the way it was, I tried to let it go and not think about the pain."

LeBron James scored 37 points and grabbed 13 rebounds for the Cavaliers and Drew Gooden added 24 points and 12 rebounds.

"We're still in the playoffs right now, so we just have to keep fighting," James said.

The fading Cavs have lost three straight and five of six, and the Nets are 1 1/2 games back of the eighth seed in the East.

In other games, Toronto clipped Atlanta in overtime, 109-101; Detroit mangled Orlando, 114-102; Memphis tripped Miami, 97-81; Utah whipped New Orleans, 98-87 while Chicago mauled New York, 102-94.

Also, Indiana creamed Washington, 93-83; Milwaukee routed Charlotte, 93-75; Denver nipped Minnesota, 107-104; Sacramento edged Portland, 119-115; Golden State surprised Phoenix, 127-119 and the Los Angeles Lakers crushed Seattle, 117-94.

In Portland, Oregon, Peja Stojakovic had 35 points and the Sacramento Kings beat the Trail Blazers to clinch its seventh-straight playoff appearance.

Mike Bibby added 19 points and 11 assists for the Kings, who controlled their own destiny after Minnesota lost to Denver earlier.

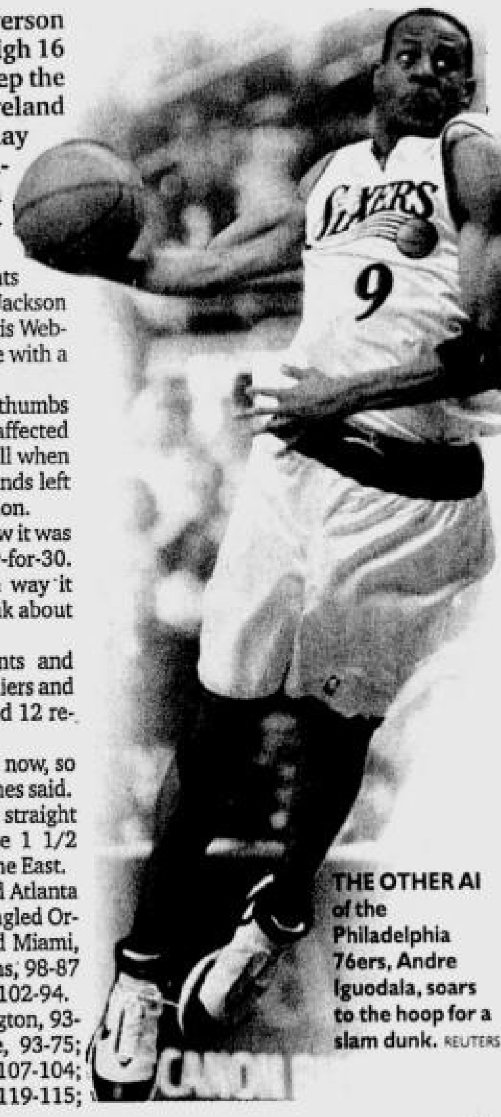
Shareef Abdur-Rahim had 23 points and 13 rebounds and Darius Miles returned after missing three games to score 23 points for the Blazers.

In Seattle, Kobe Bryant scored 42 points and Caron Butler matched a season high with 31 for the Los Angeles Lakers, who beat the Supersonics for just their second win in 15 games.

Bryant showed no effects of the bruised right shin that forced him to miss a game earlier this week. With his lower leg heavily wrapped, he shot 15-for-22 from the floor, rebounding from a 4-for-19 effort in Thursday's loss to Houston.

Ray Allen scored 30 points for Seattle while Nick Collison had 16 points and 11 rebounds.

In Orlando, Florida, Tayshaun Prince scored 26 points, Chauncey Billups added 23 as the Detroit Pistons beat the Orlando Magic. AP

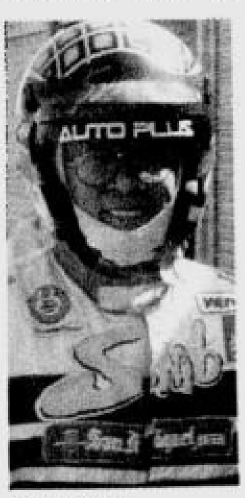


THE OTHER AI of the Philadelphia 76ers, Andre Iguodala, soars to the hoop for a slam dunk. REUTERS

NBA on 'Solar'

ALLEN Iverson and the Philadelphia Sixers meet the Washington Wizards at noon today in the NBA Solar Sports after the 8:30 a.m. clash between the Dallas Mavericks and the Utah Jazz. On RPN-9, it will be Tracy McGrady and the Houston Rockets opposite the league leading Phoenix Suns at 10 a.m.

Coseteng ready for battle



COSETENG

BRING them all on.

Multi-titled Jody Coseteng of the Havoline Racing Team is ready for another dominant show when the 2005 Philippine National Touring Car Championships starts on Sunday at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Coseteng, undoubtedly one of the greatest circuit-drivers in local racing, will again show the stuff of legends aboard his Honda Civic in the premier N1 event of PNTCC, site of his amazing triumph last season.

The five-time Driver of the Year will again be a marked man but with the all-out support of the Havoline Racing Team and the world-class potency of Havoline's fully synthetic oil, Coseteng might just snare his sixth Driver of the Year plum from among a host of contenders to his crown.

"Every year, it gets harder and harder," said Coseteng, who is backed by strong sponsors Caltex Havoline and San Miguel Beer. "We have world-class drivers competing and improving here every year. Everyone will be after my scalp. But my experience and passion for excellence will serve me in good stead."

Whatever the outcome of this season's BRC races, Coseteng's place in history is secured.

A three-time awardee of the Philippine Sportswriters Association (PSA), Coseteng missed last year's first two rounds and had a DNF (did not finish) in Round 3 but still ran away with the centerpiece N1 championship to underscore his dominance in the circuit.

SPORTSWATCH

FVR, Cayetano open Petron tra

FORMER President Fidel V. Ramos and Sen. Pia Cayetano ha
been invited by Petron Corporation to grace the Philippines' f
ever fitness trail inside the La Mesa Watershed Ecological Pa
Joining them are DENR Sec. Mike Defensor, his predecessor
Gozun, and ABS-CBN Foundation managing director Gina Lo
Petron officials, led by chair Nicasio I. Alcantara, president an
Khalid D. Al-Faddagh, VP for Marketing Jose K. Campos Jr.,
Petron Foundation executive director Marilou Erni will formal
open the trail today. The 1.2-km long Petron Fitness & Natur
is a part inside the La Mesa Ecopark, where nature lovers and
ness buffs can jog, have a leisurely walk and exercise for free

Age-Group tilt gets going

THE COUNTRY'S top junior netters will join the fourth Toby's-F
Age-Group Tennis Challenge set April 11-17 at the Rizal Memo
Tennis Center. More than 300 young players are expected to jo
event organized by the Philippine Tennis Association and Futur
Tennis Foundation and backed by Eastpak, Nassau and Gatora

Bodybuilders take center stage

THE 2005 National Bodybuilding Championship gets unc
way at the Star Theater in Star City, Cultural Center of the
Philippines grounds April 30. The title of Mr. Philippines
Philippines awaits the winners in different weight catego
The event is sponsored by the Philippine Sports Commis
Health and Beyond, and Gourmet Farms and organized b
Philippine Bodybuilding Federation.

Titans baseball underway

THE TITANS baseball League starts today at the Sto. Nin
Baseball Field, Riverside in Marikina. Highlighting today'
fair is the honoring of several baseball legends. Philippin
Force, Philippine Army, ACG-Antipolo, and Marikina-Mar
Golden Bears make up the National Division while Alabar
Olympians, Makati Trojans, Cebuana Lhuillier ILLAM All-
and KIDS All-Stars compose the Republic Division. The f
week tournament is backed by Touch Mobile, Brother's B
Squeezed for You, GameClub Inc., adidas Sports Kamp,
Digiprint Inc. and Major League Baseball International.

Fistorama pits Sales vs Concepc

SAMSUNG'S Fistorama today features the bout between top
Mark Sales and promising Bernabe Concepcion. The fight wa
recently at the Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Bagumbayan, Ta
City. The boxing show, supported by Samsung, Tanduay, PC
and Mapecon, is aired at 4 p.m., Sundays on RPN-9. Golf Po
Plus, featuring the elimination round of the Cantada Sports C
giate Women's Beach Volleyball Challenge airs at 3 p.m.

NFGB derby starts April 18

WITH more than 160 entries confirmed entries as of yeste
everything is ready for the Para Sa Bayan NFGB National
7—Bullstag Derby on April 18, 19 and 21 at the Araneta C
um. The first round (3-bullstag) on April 18 is exclusive to
zon-based breeders groups. Participants from Visayas an
danao will see action on April 19. The finals is on April 21.
mission of weights is on April 17, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Fo
ticulars, please call 9267808. The derby starts at 10 a.m.

PUMA
Los Borrachos

THE LOS Borrochos Football Club is currently back
Puma socks, which is hoping to rejuvenate the wom
football scene in the country.

89th Open at Mt. Malarayat

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

IT FEELS good to see a lot of people throwing their support behind the 89th Philippine Open. Spontaneously, that is.

They were there on Friday, April 8, many of them craning their necks inside a packed hall trying to catch a glimpse of the contract signing appointing Mt. Malarayat in Lipa City, Batangas, as venue of the Open—a first in Batangas.

People from Villamor, like Toto Bautista and Rico Javier, motored to Lipa City just to witness the proceedings.

Professionals Rey Pagunsan and Orlan Sumcad took time out to join the occasion together with some budding amateurs led by Gino Bunyi.

Even the famous horserace owner Hermie Esguerra was there, extending support "in whatever way I can."

"He (Hermie) is really a genuine patron not only of golf but almost all sports in the country," said Benny Gopez, president of the National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP).

Benny signed on behalf of the NGAP the MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) and Architect Antonio "Manong Tony" Turalba Sr., chair and president of Mt. Malarayat, officially appointing Mt. Malarayat venue of the 89th RP Open on May 19-22.

"It is with great honor and pride that, finally, our Mt. Malarayat golf club was given the chance to host the Open, unquestionably the No. 1 golf tournament in the country," said Manong Tony.

Applause after applause filled the air during the momentous occasion capped by a resounding, at times funny if not touching, speech by former President Fidel V. Ramos.

"Good afternoon, SOBs," said Mr. Ramos, his opening line immediately eliciting laughter. "Don't get me wrong. SOBs here means 'Sons of Batangas.' I am an adopted SOB myself, with the late Speaker Laurel as my sponsor."

He followed that up with, "There are two kinds of speeches: Short and long. The short one is, 'Thank you' and the long one is, 'Thank you very much.'"

FVR has not lost his wit one bit, not to mention his gait and stately demeanor seven years after he had left the Palace as our president from 1992 to 1998.

In his talk, Benny G said FVR seemed to be always "on my side each time a big event that I am involved in comes along."

Said Benny: "When I headed a delegation in 1994 to France to bid for the staging here of the 1996 World Team Amateurs, the President (FVR) was on my side. Modesty aside, I won the bid despite tremendous odds. As president now of NGAP, the President is on my side again as he is now the Patron of the Asian Tour no less. With him on my side anew, how can the 89th Philippine Open go wrong?"

Admiral Luisito F. Fernandez, in his capacity as chair of the Open organizing committee, has done a commendable job himself by appointing FVR chair of the Board of Advisers to include crucial Cabinet men, executive secretary Eduardo R. Ermita and DOTC chief Leandro R. Mendoza.

After sampling Mt. Malarayat in the morning, FVR described the course nestled at the foot of Mt. Makulot, Mt. Lobo and Mt. Malipunyo as "beautiful, cool and lovely."

Briton Patrick Young, who played ecstatically with FVR, said: "Mt. Malarayat is an absolutely excellent course."

Before playing the course, Young, director for tour development of the Asian Tour, admitted he had reservations about the Open being held at Mt. Malarayat.

"But today, I honestly feel no player from the Asian Tour will walk away from this course not feeling happy and absolutely contented," said Young, who must have gotten himself smitten by the world-famed hospitality that he concluded his speech by saying, "I hope to see a Filipino win the Open this year."

He got a warm applause.

The Open is still more than a month away but already, several giant corporations have stepped forward to signify their support, among them Ericsson, San Miguel Corporation, Pagcor, Philippine Airli
Digitel, Petron, U-BIX Corp. and Mitsub
Motors Philippines. I was told more
coming, and I'm not surprised one bit.

As Admiral Fernandez said in his w
come remarks: "The RP Open being
oldest professional golf tournamen
Asia, its prestige can never be compare
nor equaled by, anyone."

Anyone disputing that must be a ci
of Timbuktu.

* * *

FASTBREAK. Tio Vicente (Ferro), the
and only Mr. Dignified of Calauag, Que
died on Friday, April 8. Tio Vicente
more than a friend. He was both
singing and drinking partner. In any g
ering, when everybody had called
night, there he was, sticking by me till
small hours of the morning—up to the
drop of the "crazy water." In his heyday,
even a fish could out-drink him. Even w
he was already in his late seventies,
body could out-sing him. No one sang
Johnny" better than him. Thank you for
good times, Tio Vicente. You will
missed.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Wushu launches summer clinic

THE WUSHU Federation of the Philippines (WFP) has launched a summer training clinic at its national training center beside PNB Harrison along Adriatico St. in Malate.

Classes are scheduled at 10:30 a.m. to noon, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. and 6 to 7:30 p.m. from Monday to Saturday, according to Lester Pimentel, director of the project organized by the WFP development committee.

A registration fee of P1,000 is required to join the clinic, which is open to boys and girls of all ages. For more details, contact Irene or Malou at tel. nos. 4043492 and 4043493 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

National team members Andy Liu, Gary Cua and Peter Quina will conduct beginners' classes in Taolu (form) events.

With the summer clinic, WFP hopes to promote wushu to kids and adults for physical fitness and self-defense.

Organizers also aim to widen the sport's base and develop new talents who may eventually represent the country in future competitions. Among WFP's young stars are Vincent Naval, Charina Catacutan and Amor Pauline Paulo, who won medals in a recent international event.

Nat'l champ leads badminton roster

NATIONAL champion Alex Cuevas heads the entries in the Class A men's division while former UE smasher Melody Villeceran banners the ladies Class A in the Epson Cup 2 championship elimination round at the Olympic Badminton Club in Libis, Quezon City.

Grouped into three divisions—men's, ladies and mixed doubles—majority of the participants will begin their quest for the crown in five different categories.

Philippine Badminton Association president Amelita "Ming" Ramos and Pasig City representative Robert "Dodot" Jaworski Jr. will do the ceremonial serve at 4 p.m. today.

Opening-day winners in the men's doubles are Billy Lati and Jhun Bihag, Bing Lumanlan and Jojo Andres, Bing Rapadas and Marc Galido and the pair of Geraldo Signio and Ghino Lorenzo.

In the ladies' division, Annie Velasco and Leilani Sia won over their first-round opponents while the Pia Arnaldo and Eric Ignacio advanced in mixed doubles.

Close to a thousand badminton enthusiasts have joined the event sponsored by Shell, Wilson, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Citibank, Apple Center, Konica (Columbia Photo), Mizuno and UNO Magazine.

"We are glad that participation has more than doubled compared to the first Epson Cup," said Epson marketing manager Randy Kanapi.

Celebrities Beth Tamayo, Ynez Veneracion, Jen Rosendahl, Kookoo Gonzales, Gary Lim and film director Rechie Del Carmen will see action in the event supported by Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT, Yehey.com, PBNet, Fitness First, BHM, Chowking Madison Square and Ridgewood Hotel-Baguio.

Sanctioned by the PBA, Epson Cup 2 will have its elimination rounds today beginning at 9 a.m. after which the tournament takes a four-day respite before plunging into the semifinals and finals on April 15-17.

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11:00 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00

3 HIDE AND SEEK
10:45 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

4 CLOSER
10:45 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

5 THE PACIFIER
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

7 ASTERIX AND OBELIX
12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:40

8 BOOGEYMAN
1:10 3:25 5:40 7:55 10:00

9 HITCH
12:00 2:35 5:10 7:45 10:00

10 SAHARA

ERMITA
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1 CLOSER
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

2 SAHARA

3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
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4 BOOGEYMAN
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

5 THE PACIFIER
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6 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
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7 HIDE AND SEEK
10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

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1 BOOGEYMAN
11:55 2:15 4:35 6:55 9:15

2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
10:30 1:10 3:50 6:30 9:10

3 CONSTANTINE
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1 CLOSER
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2 BOOGEYMAN
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3 HIDE AND SEEK
10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25

4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
1:00 3:30 6:00 8:30

5 BE COOL
11:30 1:45 4:00 6:15 8:30

6 SAHARA

7 RESERVE

8 RESERVE

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3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
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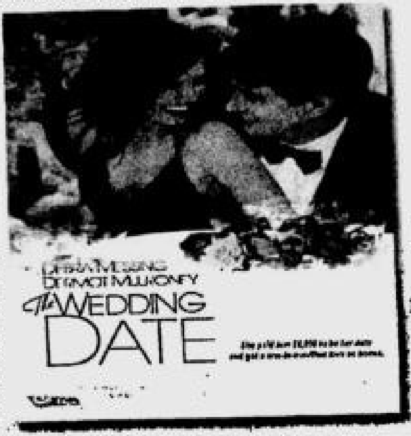
2 HIDE AND SEEK
3 SAHARA
4 CLOSER



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G4 GLORIETTA 4	HIDE & SEEK	THE PACIFIER	THX SAHARA 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	CLOSER	THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS	THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS	BE COOL
GB1 GREENBELT 1	HIDE & SEEK 11:35, 1:55, 4:00, 6:35, 9:00	SAHARA 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40					
GB3 GREENBELT 3	THX HIDE & SEEK 1:55, 4:15, 6:35, 8:55, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS	THX SAHARA 12:50, 3:30, 6:10, 8:50, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	THE PACIFIER 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	CLOSER 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS		
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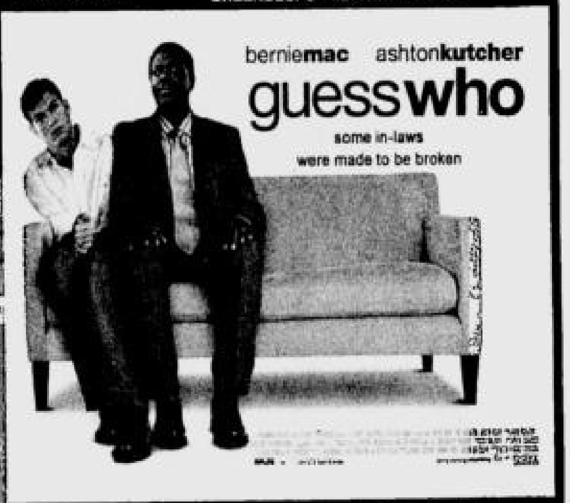

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3 (DOLBY) THE PACIFIER GP
4 (DOLBY) SAHARA PG13

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(DOLBY) HIDE AND SEEK PG13

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2 PACIFIER
3 CLOSER
4 HIDE AND SEEK

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3 ALONE IN THE DARK
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) SAHARA
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2 (SDDS) PACIFIER
3 (DTS) MISS CONGENIALITY 2
4 (GOLD DTS) SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
5 (GOLD DOLBY) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
6 (GOLD SDDS) THE PACIFIER
7 (GOLD DOLBY) HIDE AND SEEK
8 [illegible] SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
9 [illegible] CLOSER
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3 (DTS EX) CONFIDENE
4 HOSTAGE

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(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

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2 HOSTAGE
3 (DOLBY) CURSED
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Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

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2 HITCH
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4 SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD

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2 (DOLBY) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
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4 BE COOL

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3 (DOLBY) MILLION DOLLAR BABY

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2 CURSED
3 (DOLBY) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
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4 (DTS) CRACKER JACK

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1 (DOLBY) SAHARA (SIMUL US)
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3 (DTS) BE COOL
4 KAPIT BAHAY
5 SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD

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2 WHOLE TEN YARD
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4 (DOLBY) CURSED

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2 CURSED
3 CONFIDENCE
4 SALAT SA LIGAYA

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2 ANG GUSTO KO SA LALAKE

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His daughter's Mr. Right just turned out to be... Mr. White.

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OPENS APRIL 20

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MISS CONGENIALITY 2 1:15 / 4:00 / 6:45 / 9:30	**CLOSER** 12:25 / 2:35 / 4:45 / 6:55 / 9:05
THE PACIFIER 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30	**BE COOL** 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20
BOOGEYMAN 2:15 / 4:30 / 6:45 / 9:00	**SAHARA** 1:15 / 4:00 / 6:45 / 9:30

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❶ **THE PACIFIER** 11:50 / 2:00 / 4:10 / 6:20 / 8:30	❹ **HIDE & SEEK** 11:40 / 1:50 / 4:00 / 6:10 / 8:20
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❸ **SAHARA** 12:20 / 3:05 / 5:50 / 8:35	DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

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2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE *Apr. 10* 4:15pm Alaska vs.Fedex / 6:35pm San Miguel vs. Ginebra	**2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE** *Apr. 13* 4:45pm Purefoods vs.Sta Lucia / 7:35pm Ginebra vs.Shell
THE CASCADES: LIVE IN MANILA *April 15 Friday, 8pm*	**RIVERMAYA & KITCHIE NADAL LIVE!** *April 16, Saturday, 8pm*

CENTER EVENTS

SALE EVENTS	*Van Heusen Dress Shirt Sale ongoing until April 17 and Mod Milano Jewelry Sale ongoing until April 15, Ground Floor of Gateway Mall*
EXHIBITS	*Pope John Paul II Memorial Exhibit ongoing until April 16 at Level 3 of Gateway Mall*
SPECIAL PROMOS	*Hush Puppies Get Into the Wave Promo ongoing until April 30 at Level 2 of Gateway Mall.*

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OPENS APRIL 13

FEAR COMES FULL CIRCLE

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Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

SPORTS TV
Compiled by L. Manguiat

ALLEN Iverson and the Philadelphia Sixers meet the Washington Wizards at noon today in the NBA Solar Sports after the 8:30 a.m. clash between the Dalls Mavericks and the Utah Jazz. On RPN-9, it will be Tracy McGrady and the Houston Rockets opposite the league leading Phoenix Suns at 10 a.m.

Mikola prepares to negotiate a curve. RUDY ESPERAS

Wild Man rules enduro

EXTREME enduro rider Arnold "Wild Man' Aquino emerged as the overall champion in the solo category in the four-hour dirt bike enduro at the Palo Alto racetrack in Baras, Rizal.

Aquino conquered the seven-kilometer semi-motocross enduro track with plenty to spare even though riding solo, he managed to finish fourth overall in the open . production doubles and third in the executive doubles category.

Aquino said the Le Mans-type mass start enduro was really scary, adding "there were more than 150 pumped up dirt riders trying to fit into one trail at the end."

The event organized by Nani Pazcoguin and managed by Racewurx, drew a crowd of 8,000.

Mikola grabs pole; Asian F3 off today

By Musong R. Castillo

ROSARIO, Batangas—"I don't like the track, it's bumpy, different. And my car needs improvement."

This was the unhappy reaction of Indonesian star Ananda Mikola despite proving the quickest in qualifying for today's Addict Mobile Asian Formula 3 Super Prix.

Driving for Fastron Racing with Threebond, Mikola earned his first pole position with defending champion Christian Jones by his side and Filipino Dado Peña behind when the 2005 AF3 season officially starts.

The 26-year-old Mikola shaved more than a hundredth of a second off Jones' time in his third and final run yesterday after the Australian had topped his previous best he chalked up in his first run.

Mikola clocked 1 minute 22.410 seconds for the 3.4-kilometer Batangas Racing Circuit here, a track he does not favor compared to the others in Asia which he said are bigger and have faster curves.

"My initial goal is only to get to the podium," said Mikola. "Unlike Sentul and China, this track is small and has slower curves."

The first race will be flagged off at 10 a.m. today with the second scheduled at 4 p.m. Each race will be composed of 15 laps and all of the top three drivers in the grid are playing it safe.

"I'm pretty happy at how we're going at the moment," said Jones, the son of former Formula 1 champ Allan.

"Hopefully, I'll be at the podium (after the race)," said Peña, a 17-year-old born in Spain who figured in a minor crash in the first turn's tire cushion Friday.

The event is backed by Addict Mobile, Yokohama, Boysen, Motolite, PLDT MyPAD (www.pldtmypad.com) and Lima City Hotel and has Jam 88.3, Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT, 103.5 KLite and Wave 89.1 as media partners.

Motor sports enthusiasts can watch the races at real time by logging on to www.pldtmypad.com and www.asianf3.net.

Pasa reveals 4-year swim master plan

By Marc Anthony Reyes

BACOLOD CITY—The Philippine Amateur Swimming Association board yesterday laid down a comprehensive four-year plan aimed at jumpstarting the sport which has lagged behind in the Asian region.

Pasa president Mark Joseph vowed to revive the Pasa national and regional offices through secretary general Akiko Thomson, implement disciplinary system for administrative violations, invigorate the national team through "high-performance" director Pinky Brosas, and host big international events, among other things.

"This is the road map that we are going to take from now to 2009," said Joseph.

Joseph said the "future is bright and full of hope" for the national swim team.

Joseph said they have uncovered during the meeting several irregularities committed by the previous Pasa leadership that ranged from issuance of fake receipts, questionable fund-raisers and illegal "initiation rites" for members of the national youth team.

Joseph cited a particular incident in an international competition where "the swimmers and coaches got drunk and told the swimmers who are 10-12 years old to walk around the hotel naked as a form of initiation rites."

New rule puts Fil-Ams' SEAG bid in jeopardy

BACOLOD CITY—A new Fina (International Swimming Federation) ruling threatens the Southeast Asian Games participation of two promising Fil-Am tankers, who represented the country in the Athens Olympics last year.

Jaclyn Pangilinan and JB Walsh, who are both based in the US, won't make it to the RP squad this year based on a recent ruling that they need a two-year physical residency in their homeland to be able to represent it in an international meet.

The 18-year-old Pangilinan is a medal prospect in the women's breaststroke events while Walsh, 17, who qualified in the men's 200 butterfly, is also a medal hopeful in the same event.

New swimming president Mark Joseph said he's hoping the two Fil-Ams can get around the new Fina ruling considering that they have already seen action for the Philippines in the last Olympics.

Joseph said Fina may have decided to impose the residency requirement in the wake of reports that some Olympic stars are being wooed to compete in regional international events for countries where their parents came from.

One such star, according to Joseph, is Olympic swimming sensation Nathalie Coughlin of the US whose mother Zennie traces his roots to the Philippines.

Coughlin—the first woman to break the minute-mark in the 100-meter backstroke—swept the two backstroke events in Athens and went on to finish with five medals.

In the wake of Coughlin's Olympic success, Filipino officials had toyed with the idea of tapping Coughlin for the 2006 Asiad. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

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Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

Ramon de Ocampo finds opening spot in H'wood

By Ruben V. Nepales
LA Correspondent

For now, the tag 'son of former RP finance secretary' will do. But this role in a big-budget action movie may soon change the picture

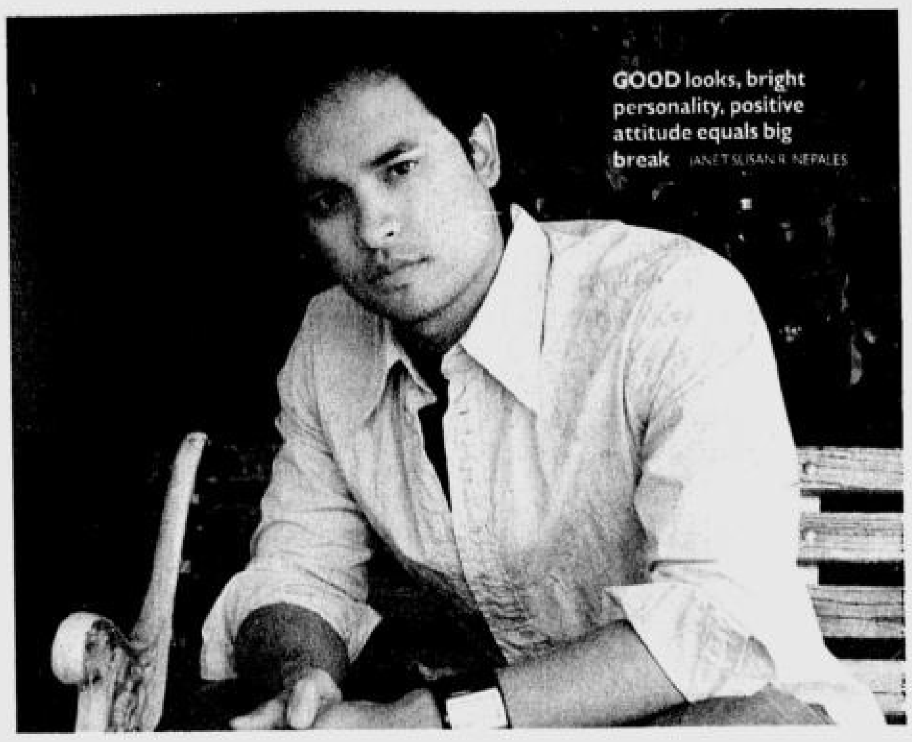
LOS ANGELES—"What are you, my *lola*?" Ramon de Ocampo asks, eyes smiling. We can't help but laugh and be reminded that this young man is, indeed, Filipino-American.

Ramon, soon to be seen in the Hollywood movie "xXx: State of the Union," is reacting to one question in particular: We asked if he and his American girlfriend of three years planned to marry soon.

Earlier, he walked into this trendy West Hollywood restaurant looking tentative. But once he settled down to lunch, Ramon started radiating confidence.

His attire suggests hip young Hollywood—long-sleeved cotton shirt, Polo briefs peeking from under his Diesel jeans, wristwatch with an ultra-wide strap.

His good looks are not immediately apparent; his charisma grows as the interview progresses, enhanced by his bright personality. As he maintains eye contact with us while answering our questions, we are reminded of Lea Salonga. We glimpse the same drive, focus, intensity and intelligence.



GOOD looks, bright personality, positive attitude equals big break JANET SUSAN R. NEPALES

End credits

For now, the label "son of former finance secretary Roberto de Ocampo" is attached to Ramon. But a role in the $115-million follow-up to the blockbuster "xXx," where his name appears in the end credits, could be the ticket to his own fame. He has racked up promising credentials for a young actor: an OBIE (Off-Broadway Theater Awards) for his performance in the acclaimed play "The Romance of Magno Rubio" and a couple more for his recording narration of books.

This restaurant is just across from where he lives. As we talk, a waiter recognizes Ramon. They were classmates at Carnegie Mellon's School of Drama.

For somebody who has been in LA for only over a year, Ramon, whose family moved to the US in 1977, is lucky to have landed in such a big film production.

He narrates how he got the role of Agent Meadows in the movie that stars Samuel Jackson, Ice Cube and Willem Defoe.

"I had very good training ... and my timing is good," he begins. "There's a movement in cinema [that is] much more open to minorities. Not that people are knocking on my door. They had been looking for someone to play this role for a long time. By the time I came in, they had seen everybody. I auditioned with a casting director. After the audition, I thought, boy, I was bad."

But he got a call while driving home. "They wanted me to see the director (Lee Tamahori, 'Die Another Day') the next day." Ramon imitates Tamahori's accent in demonstrating how he was dryly dismissed: "Okay, okay, that's fine. Thank you."

He phoned his agent and said he blew it. "But I got a call again; saying ... I was in."

The actor who grew up in Northern Virginia laughs as he describes his role: "Side kick to Scott Speedman's character. He gets mad and he tells me what to do."

Ramon is steeped in both the martial arts and the creative arts. Everyone in his family is a taekwondo black belt. He plays the guitar, and he used to paint. His father, now president of the Asian Institute of Management, is an obvious inspiration. "My father is an intellectual. He is smart and funny. It would be nice to achieve the same level of success that he has achieved in his career," the eldest son says.

"I was a painter in high school and then became an actor. All my siblings (Ana, Jaime and Rica) became artists," he points out. His mother, Maria Carolina, still lives in Northern Virginia.

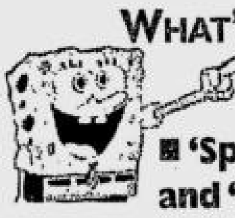
In "Magno Rubio," he won acclaim as the voice of Clarabelle, a woman. In an all-male Yale Repertory Theatre version of "The Taming of the Shrew," Ramon played Kate. Reviewer, Tom Isler, swooned: "I was floored by how attractive I found De Ocampo as Kate."

"I think I should make it a minor career," jokes Ramon about playing women.

Of his television career, Ramon considers guesting on "Cosby" in 1999 as most memorable. "Bill Cosby rewrote a scene for

RAMON/ A2-2

WHAT'S INSIDE



■ 'SpongeBob' and 'Hide and Seek' review /A2-4

■ Ryan Agoncillo wants to marry Judy Ann Santos /A2-5

■ Rafael Rossel, 'Bikini Boy' /A2-4

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Nora's immigration lawyer speaks up

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Contributor

DUE to her recent arrest at the Los Angeles airport, singer-actress Nora Aunor's status in the United States has become the subject of much speculation.

A tabloid recently declared she was facing immediate deportation. A contrary report said she could not leave the US until after her April 21 arraignment.

INQUIRER Entertainment interviewed by e-mail Aunor's immigration lawyer, Lourdes Tancinco, based in San Francisco, California.

How would the incident affect Nora Aunor's O1 visa application?

The fact that she was detained does not necessarily mean that [she] is guilty of an offense. She has the right to a hearing. The prosecution has to prove its case and, pending resolution of the charges, she is [presumed] innocent ... thus, it shall have no impact on her O1 visa application.

What happens if she's found guilty? If she's exonerated?

It would be premature to determine ... without the actual documentation from the court. I am working closely with her defense attorneys in LA to ensure that she gets adequate legal representation. In her current situation, Ms Aunor may continue to stay and work legally in the US.

What exactly is an O1 visa?

Generally, the O1 visa enables people with extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business, athletics, motion picture or television industry to enter the US for temporary periods of time. Citizenship and Immigration Service's regulations loosely define this category.

To be considered an outstanding individual, one should be highly regarded in his or her field, and can work in the US only in that area of expertise.

What was your initial reaction to the news?

I was disturbed, but confident that she would get out of the situation legally.

What can you say to people spreading inaccurate news?

We have no control over the opinions that other people hold of my client. What is important is that [news be heard] directly from her spokesperson [and manager] Nori Sayo.

Is your client open to your advice?

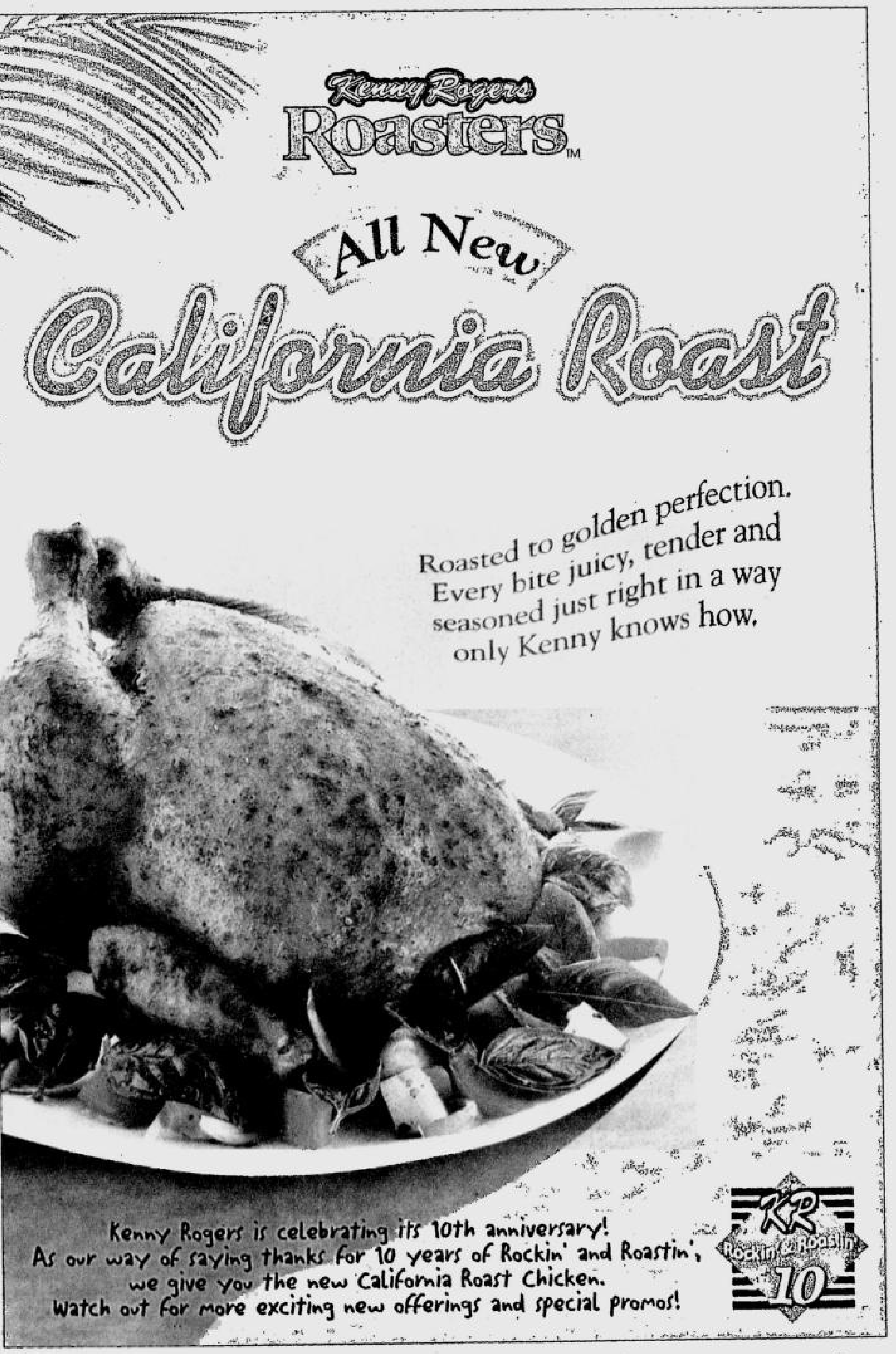
She is very receptive and cooperative.

What are your hopes with regard to the case?

I hope she will be able to get out of [this] predicament as soon as possible.

To what extent are you working to see this happen?

[We will] do our best and ... continue to protect her best interests as permitted by pertinent immigration laws and regulations.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9:25 LFS / 9:40 LMF / 11:55 END
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METRO MANILA

sm megamall
1. BE COOL
2. SAHARA
3. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
4. HIDE AND SEEK
5. CLOSER
6. HOSTAGE
7. BOOGEYMAN
8. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
9. THE PACIFIER
10. RESERVED
11. RESERVED
12. RESERVED

sm city fairview
1. BOOGEYMAN
2. HOSTAGE
3. BAHAY NI LOLA 2
4. THE PACIFIER
5. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
6. HIDE AND SEEK
7. SAHARA
8. ROBOTS
9. CLOSER
10. SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD
11. BE COOL
12. ALONE IN THE DARK

sm city north edsa
1. RESERVED
2. RESERVED
3. THE PACIFIER
4. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
5. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
6. CLOSER
7. HIDE AND SEEK
8. SAHARA

sm city manila
1. CLOSER
2. SAHARA
3. BOOGEYMAN
4. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
5. THE PACIFIER
6. BE COOL
7. HOSTAGE
8. BAHAY NI LOLA 2
9. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
10. SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD
11. ALONE IN THE DARK
12. HIDE AND SEEK

sm city sta. mesa
1. RESERVED
2. RESERVED
3. RESERVED
4. CLOSER
5. SAHARA
6. BOOGEYMAN
7. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
8. HIDE AND SEEK
9. THE PACIFIER
10. MS. CONGENIALITY 2

sm city southmall
1. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2. CLOSER
3. RESERVED
4. RESERVED
5. LOVE ME IF YOU DARE
6. BOOGEYMAN
7. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
8. SAHARA
9. THE PACIFIER
10. HIDE AND SEEK

sm city bicutan
1. SAHARA
2. CLOSER
3. HIDE AND SEEK
4. CLOSER

sm cinema tutuban
1. RESERVED
2. RESERVED
3. RESERVED
4. RESERVED

sm supercenter sucat
1. THE PACIFIER
2. HIDE AND SEEK
3. SAHARA
4. CLOSER

LUZON

sm city pampanga
1. HOSTAGE
2. ALONE IN THE DARK
3. SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD
4. HITCH
5. CURSED
6. BAHAY NI LOLA 2

sm city baguio
1. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
2. MILLION DOLLAR BABY
3. RAY
4. HOSTAGE

sm city batangas
1. CONFIDENCE
2. BAHAY NI LOLA 2
3. HOSTAGE
4. MS. CONGENIALITY 2

sm city dasmariñas
1. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2. CLOSER
3. THE PACIFIER
4. ALONE IN THE DARK

sm city marilao
1. THE PACIFIER
2. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
3. ALONE IN THE DARK
4. HOSTAGE

sm city bacoor
1. ALONE IN THE DARK
2. BAHAY NI LOLA 2
3. SAHARA
4. HIDE AND SEEK
5. THE PACIFIER
6. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
7. CLOSER
8. SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD

sm city lucena
1. MILLION DOLLAR BABY
2. HITCH
3. BUNSHINSABA
4. RACING STRIPES

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

sm city cebu
1. ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
2. RACING STRIPES
3. RESERVED
4. RESERVED
5. CONFIDENCE
6. HITCH
7. HOSTAGE
8. SAHARA

sm city iloilo
1. HITCH
2. RESERVED
3. SON OF THE MASK 2
4. BAHAY NI LOLA 2
5. HOSTAGE
6. THE FINAL CUT
7. RESERVED
8. CURSED

sm city davao
1. SAHARA
2. ROBOTS
3. SON OF THE MASK 2
4. RAY
5. HITCH
6. THE FINAL CUT

sm city cagayan de oro
1. MILLION DOLLAR BABY
2. HITCH
3. THE FINAL CUT
4. ROBOTS

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•Not applicable with any other promos and discounts.
•Not applicable on holidays.
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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1045 Series of 2005

THE JACKET

A haunting thriller in the tradition of 'The Sixth Sense'

King Arthur's
KEIRA KNIGHTLEY

Somewhere between ***The Sixth Sense*** and ***The Butterfly Effect*** comes the haunting thriller ***'The Jacket'.***

It opens with a series of night-vision images and garbled, static-filled audio, not dissimilar to George Lucas' student-film version of *THX-1138*. Even when night-vision turns to full color, things remain jumpy and off-kilter, as we're in the middle of a Gulf War battlefield, occasionally interspersed with shots from the TV news. Jack Starks (*Academy Award Winner **Adrien Brody***) is trying to comfort an Iraqi child when suddenly the kid pulls a gun and shoots him in the head. Things go white as Jack tells us that "I was 27 the first time I died." Miraculously, he survives, and just as miraculously, there is no lame ***Jacob's Ladder*** twist later in the movie that might reveal him to have been dead all along.

Back home and out of the hospital, he encounters a little girl and her drunken mother (***Kelly Lynch***) on the side of a snow-covered road. He manages to fix their broken-down truck and gives the young girl his dog tags as a souvenir when she asks for them. Not long afterward, he hitches a ride with a creepy redneck (***Brad Renfro***) and things take a turn for the worse. A policeman ends up dead, the redneck disappears, and Starks is on trial for murder — but because of his head injuries, he can't remember all the details. He does recall the girl and her mother, but has no proof they ever existed.

Starks is found to be criminally insane and sent to an asylum, where he is watched over by doctors Kris Kristofferson and Jennifer Jason Leigh. The place is pretty rundown, but thankfully not in any kind of David Fincher decay-chic way. Rather, it looks like many real medical facilities in that it doesn't seem to have received much in the way of new decor or equipment (*or even a good scrubbing*) since the '70s.

Part of Starks' treatment is an experimental technique developed by Dr. Becker (*Kristofferson*), in which the patient is shot full of drugs, placed in a musty old straitjacket (*the jacket of the title*), and shoved in a mortuary drawer for an extended period of time. Such would freak anyone out, and director John Maybury invites us to do so along with Starks; he rolls out some experimental editing and color techniques that call to mind a hybrid of the *2001* stargate sequence and the videotaped images of ***"The Ring".***

And then the high concept happens: Starks wakes up in what he will later discover is the year 2007, standing outside a diner in a snowswept landscape. He meets a beautiful woman named Jackie (*King Arthur's **Keira Knightley***) who seems strangely drawn to him. And while at her house, he finds his old dog tags. Then he is shocked to discover that the grown up Jackie is the little girl he has helped in the year 1991. When he reveals himself to be Stark, Jackie does not believe and thinks Starks is mad. He can't be Starks, she insists, because Starks died after he was committed to the asylum years ago. Starks cannot figure out what is happening. Is he dead or alive?

If that's not enticing enough, here are three words for you: ***Keira. Knightley. Naked.*** Yes, Knightley goes naked for the first time on screen. [by EASTBAYEXPRESS.COM]

ADVT.

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

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3 Alone In the Dark	1 Boogeyman	1 Legendary Street Fighter
4 Sahara	2 Gamitan	2 Rental Reservation
5 Pacifier	3 Renovation	
	4 Renovation	
	5 Sahara	
	6 Closer	

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NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1
CLOSER
11:10, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10
R13

CINEMA 2
HIDE AND SEEK
11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
P13

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MUSIC MUSEUM, VI APRIL 28, 2005 "LOVE IN APRIL" - PILITA CORRALES 7:30PM
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The good news

OVER at YES! magazine, we like opening every issue with something to applaud about show biz. Yes, applaud—as in give a standing ovation, clap our hands, shower with roses and confetti, and blow unending whistles their way.

I'm happy to say that in the three years and five months we've been doing this, we've never run out! Every month we've enough show biz folk to applaud for acts of selflessness, and the only reason we've got just one or two stellar examples every issue is dastardly lack of space.

JUICE

Jo-Ann Q. Maglipon

Let's go over this year, for instance.

Richard Merk

In January, we had **Richard Merk**. Unknown to many, this versatile—even mercurial—jazz singer has long been a friend to fellow entertainers in need.

When director **Tony Reyes** told him about **Paquito Diaz**, your favorite FPJ villain, suffering a stroke, Richard quickly went on overdrive. Using as venue the Merk's Bar Bistro, which he owns and manages, he mounted "Kita Kits para kay Kits," a benefit show where celebrities performed for free.

A partial list of the entertainers that showed up: Dolphy, Eddie Mesa, Leo Valdez, Noel Trinidad, Jacqui Magno, Dulce, and opera singer Montet Acoymo. Seen jamming on stage were Christopher de Leon, Tirso Cruz III, Jimmy Santos, and Richard himself, backed by the Dynasouls Band.

In the audience that night, smiling like they had not done in months, were Paquito's wife Nena and daughter Cheska. They would later say that Paquito came out of his one-month coma on the very evening that "Kita Kits" was held!

Months earlier, Richard held another benefit show, this time for former INQUIRER entertainment editor Louie Camino, who was then undergoing chemotherapy. Louie, always a low-key fellow, never wanted the hype and trouble but Richard and friends—Gary V and Martin Nievera among them—went right ahead and did a warm show for him.

Louie is gone now, but it feels great to know that the man was appreciated, not simply as a good editor, but as a good person who never asked to be treated special, but around whom so many stars rallied because they saw him as special.

Other fundraisers at Merk's Bar Bistro had been for singer and host Eddie Mercado, who had undergone brain surgery; and for pianist and musical director Toti Fuentes, who has a rare kind of stomach cancer.

"It feels good to be able to help in your own little way," Richard told YES!, "and Merk's will always have a space for that. I was down before, and I know how it feels to be helped."

FPJ, MTV

In February, we applauded FPJ, about whom everyone in show biz still says: "*Kung nandito lang si Kuya Ron, di problema iyan…*"

It's a refrain that's heard just about any time any one in show biz needs help — to get out of a hospital, during the tuition months, when it's time to bury a loved one, and even on the occasions when show-biz industry hands need to put out ads in newspapers explaining why they're railing against, say, the VAT or censorship.

No one else in show business—not even those far richer than he—is seen as equally or as sweepingly generous. Needless to say, FPJ is sorely missed.

That same month, we sang the praises of MTV for its second hot Staying Alive Music Summit for HIV/AIDS. With this one, local bands and individual singers performed—again for free—at the Global City Open Field to help in MTV's campaign to keep the youth informed about these deadly diseases.

Their battle cry may well be: Be safe, but go get some fun!

Present were Kyla, Ciara Sotto, Barbie Almabis of Barbie's Cradle, Lougee Basabas of Mojofly, Hannah Romawac of Session Road, and even equestrienne Toni Leviste and MTV VJ Cindy Kurleto.

Nanette Inventor

In March, YES! said "Bravo!" to the fabulously talented Nanette Inventor, who, with Chad Borja and the Ateneo de Manila's Bukas Palad Music Ministry, trooped to HK last December to give a rousing free concert.

The Christmas concert, held at the Chater Garden in Central HK, gathered more than 20,000 of our OFWs. For those few hours, Nanette and Co. provided a happy break in the tedium of slaving it out in a foreign country, far from family, in a season traditionally celebrated with multiple gatherings of kin and friends.

Bibsy Carballo

This month, we applauded talent manager Bibsy Carballo, whose production company Snack Arts has been giving away Christmas gifts

THE GOOD/ A2-3

Ramon …

From page A2-1

me ... turning it into one big sequence," he says.

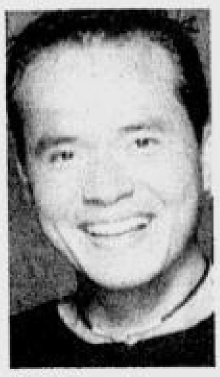
When he moved to LA, he bought a Suzuki motorcycle. "My mother was pleased, but my father was not," he says, smiling.

So now he tools around in a champagne-colored PT Cruiser Convertible. "I spend a lot of time shining it," he says, eyes twinkling.

Our interview done, Ramon steps out into a glorious spring afternoon on Santa Monica Boulevard. We tell him that we hope he makes it big. With the strap of his canvas bag slung jauntily over his shoulder, he walks away, looking like ... that's exactly what he intends to do.

MERK

INVENTOR


BORJA

From page A2-2

to children in hospitals, orphanages, and poorer barangays for the last 17 years.

Last Jan. 9, Bibsy and Co. chose to give the gifts to the children of more than 300 movie industry workers whose labors—as stuntmen, cameramen, legmen, utility men, gaffers, messengers, drivers, sound and light assistants—are all too often very lowly paid.

The event was held at the Mowelfund compound and dubbed Pagsalubong sa 2005: Handog ng mga Artista sa Mowelfund. Colorful presents included strollers, clothes, toys; gift packs filled with canned goods, noodles, and the rice from FPJ's group; tickets to Enchanted Kingdom; and for the grand prize, a baby crib.

Some celebrities who joined up and kept the event lively: Ivy Violan, Ana Fegi, Ricky Davao and Jackie Lou Blanco, Bodjie Pascua, Adriana Agcaoili, and Richard Signey. Plus: Alma Concepcion, Jenine Desiderio, Bunny Paras, Isabel Rivas, Chiqui Roa-Puno, Fanny Serrano, and Boots Anson-Roa.

Bravo!

As we can see, there's a real spillover of do-gooders from show biz. Our backlog of stars to applaud goes all the way to before Christmas of last year, and I'm betting there are more we simply haven't stumbled upon.

The stars may not need the applause, or even want it, but we insist on giving it anyway—especially now when The Good News about show biz seems hard to come by on television.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER TV GUIDE
Sunday, April 10, 2005

ABANGAN!
May Tama kaya Mas Mali!
ABC

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABS-CBN 2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		SCQ Reload		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Rated K		TV Patrol World	Wansapanataym		Sunday Family Cinema			
NBN		Value Vision		Kabataan News Network	Family Rosary Crusade	Concert at the Park		Kamao		Family Rosary Crusade	The Working President	Battle Of Royale		To Be Announced					Unlimited Diving
ABC 5		Ringside		PBA										ABCinema					
GMA 7	Gigsters	Love To Love			S-Files				Naks	Mel & Joey Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho	All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office				
RPN 9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Fistorama		Road Trip	Simple Life	Smackdown		Navy Ncis		Without A Trace						The Working President	Ugnayan
IBC 13		Street Show Off	Nation's Peacekeeper	America Alb.		Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Elorde Awards Night		Pinoy Action Hits				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
JackTV		WWE Afterburn		WWE Smackdown				WWE Velocity		WWE Bottomline		WWE Afterburn		Pride FC				Slamball	
Nickelodeon	Girls In Love	Kenan & Kel	As Told By Ginger	Tao Shu The Warrior Boy	Lat, The Kampung Boy	The Adventures Of Tenali Raman	1, 2, 3	Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Romeo	Girls In Love	Kenan & Kel	As Told By Ginger	Rocket Power	Hey Arnold!	The Wild Thornberrys
MYX		Urban MYX	MYX Backtrax	Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Hit Chart				Pop MYX	Urban MYX	MYX Presents		My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	Mellow MYX
ETC	Will & Grace	Saturday Night Live		Who Wants To Marry My Dad		American Dreams		One Tree Hill		Queer Eye For The Straight		Average Joe		Rated Oh!	The Insider Weekend	Nip/ Tuck		Entertainment Tonight Weekend	
Cinema One				Urban Rangers				Ang Utol Kong Hoodlum				All My Life				Vampire Hunters			
Studio 23			Spotlight TV	BYK 101	Hotwire TV	Top Gear	Game Plan	Nginig: The Hidden Files		Exposed		Two & A Half Men	Just Shoot Me	Will & Grace	F	Digital Tour (10:15PM)		Fastlane (11:15PM)	
AXN		3 Ninjas: High Noon At Mega Mountain				Hollywood's Greatest Stunts	Hollywood's Greatest Stunts	Maximum Exposure (Season II)		The Amazing Race 7		Fear Factor		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Season 5)		Lost		The Contender	
Star World		The Apprentice			Growing Up Gotti	Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	Wild Card		Malcolm In The Middle	The Kumars At No. 42	Oprah Prime Time		Parkinson		The Office		Malcolm In The Middle	Oprah Prime Time
CNN	Design 360	World News	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart: Global Edition	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	CNN Presents: A Rising Tide: The Threat Of Global Warming		World News	MainSail	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart: Global Edition	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	World Sport
National Geographic		Interpol Investigates		Samsung Best Of The Week		Human Edge	Critterman Wildtech Adventure	Jungle Week		Deep Jungle: Monster In The Forest/Hot Scenes From New Zealand		Deep Jungle:New Frontiers		Deep Jungle:The Beast Within				Samsung Best Of The Week	
Solar Sports			IBF Yonex Japan Open '05										Sports Desk	NBA Game: Utah @ Dallas					NBA Action
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Food Network Special	Unwrapped	E! Entertainment Special 101 Most Shocking Moments		West Side Story					You're Invited
HBO			My Little Eye			Deceit			I Spy (6:25 PM)			Dragonheart			Looney Tunes: Back In Action			Excess Baggage (11:10PM)	
Star Movies	The Chamber (2:45 PM)				For Love Of The Game (4:35 PM)					Mystery Men (6:55 PM)				La Divora				The Princess Diaries	
Cartoon Network	What's New Scooby Doo?	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	Swat Kats	Duck Dodgers	Xiaolin Showdown	Winx Club	Atomic Betty	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Megas XLR	What's New Scooby Doo?	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Duck Dodgers	Codename: Kids Next Door	Samurai Jack	Xiaolin Showdown
Disney Channel	Potatoes And Dragons	Sabrina, The Animated Series	The Legend Of Tarzan	Wicked Science	Kim Possible	Martin Mystery	That's So Raven	American Dragon	Phil Of The Future	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney			Dave The Barbarian	Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Cinemax			Panic Room				Contagious			Red Dragon				The Skulls III			For Love Or Money		
Hallmark Channel	Bewitched	Betrayed				Lorenzo's Oil				Midsomer Murders: Judgement Day				Bug			Midsomer Murders: Dead Man's Eleven		
Discovery Channel		Science Mysteries		American Chopper		Rides		Extreme Machines		Hour Asia				Discovery Sunday				Power Zone	
Sports Plus								World Poker Tour Ep.12 Reno				Italia Serie A		Get A Grip		World Golf C'ships Accenture Finals			
EWTN	St. Catherine Of Sienna	Angelus (3:15PM)	Pope Pius XII	Children's Rosary	Faith Factory	The Holy Rosary With Mother Angelica and the Nuns Of Our Lady Of The Angels Monastery	Octavia Dias	EWTN Bookmark	A Christian Pilgrimage To Jordan	EWTN Global Showcase		The Way To Follow Jesus	St. Matthew	Sunday Mass			Life Is Worth Living	Mother Angelica Live Classics	

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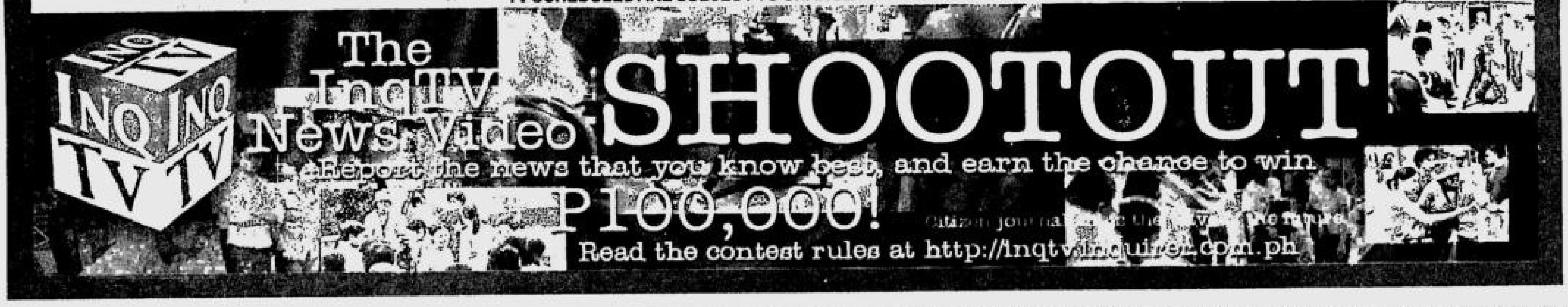
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Fireworks display every weekend at 9:00 PM

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Weekday: Makati to Enchanted Kingdom - 2:30PM
Enchanted Kingdom to Makati - 10:00PM
Weekend: Makati to Enchanted Kingdom - 10:30AM & 12:30PM
Enchanted Kingdom to Makati - 7:00PM & 10:00PM
Ayala Center Makati Bus Terminal, Park Square 2

Admission Tickets
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Double feature

By Nice Rodriguez and Elvira Mata

**The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie
Directed by Stephen Hillenburg**

**Hide and Seek
Directed by John Polson**

REVIEW

THIS week, they couldn't agree on a movie

NICE: I love animation but I don't warm up to cartoon characters very easily, particularly those that are merchandising magnets. I am more of an independent animation fan. It is for this reason that I brought along my two nieces and a nephew (ages 6 to 13) to see "SpongeBob SquarePants" — so that their enthusiasm, based on commercial conditioning, might infect me. And since they're hooked on the Nickelodeon channel all day, they're the experts.

ELVIRA: I hate kids. I think they should be collected in trucks and ground into biscuits like in the movie "Soylent Green." I went to see "Hide and Seek," because Nice's wards would be in "Spongebob." And because Dakota Fanning reminds me of a young and morose Christina Ricci when she first appeared as Wednesday in the movie "Addams Family."

NICE: SpongeBob is easy to like. His optimism is contagious. He is irresistible, albeit not sickeningly sweet. His buddy, Patrick the Starfish, is a dimwit and just as captivating. Why? I came in expecting booger and fart gags but to the contrary, after having watched too many naughty animated films, this movie rates immaculate despite the warning for crude humor.

One is not really sure if SpongeBob is transitioning from kid to man or vice versa. It is difficult to find fault with someone so childlike. SpongeBob and Patrick are pure and innocent and, I would even bet, asexual. Pee Wee Herman comes to mind and Tom Kenny, who did the voice for SpongeBob, says they even gave the character a "nautical laughter" like the combined giggles of dolphin and seagull to make him sound more cheerful.

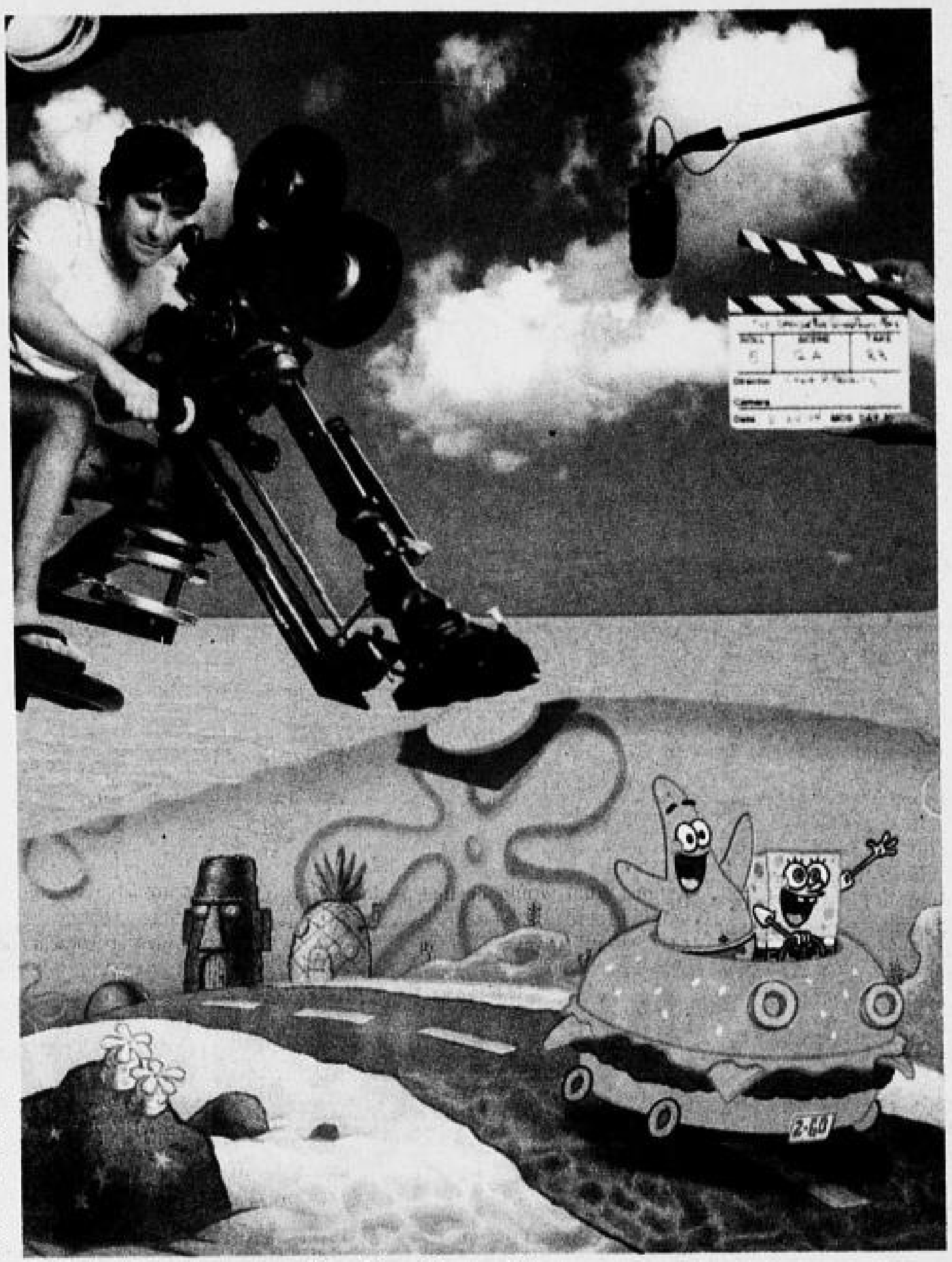
ELVIRA: "Hide and Seek" is about a 10-year-old girl named Emily (Fanning) who walks in while her father (Robert de Niro) is fishing out her mom (Amy Irving) from the bathtub. She appears to have committed suicide by slashing her wrists. Emily spends a few months in the children's hospital for post-traumatic stress disorder. The father, who's a psychologist, brings his daughter to the country so the two of them could heal and bond. During this transition period, Emily meets an imaginary friend named Charlie, who drowns the family cat, redecorates the bathroom with the words, "You let her die," and later goes on a killing spree. I am vaguely reminded of my own happy childhood.

NICE: SpongeBob and Patrick are not the type to wear boxers. They go around in their briefs, and even though SpongeBob exposes his butt and Patrick goes frontal, this movie is safe for kids. SpongeBob is no slacker. He is motivated by service and love—even if he's the one wronged. What could be nobler than loving an enemy? SpongeBob sets out for treacherous Shell City to retrieve King Neptune's crown and save the life of his ungrateful boss, Mr. Krabs, who doesn't promote him at work. Mr. Krab's excuse? It's a man's job. Kids don't rule.

Stephen Hillenburg, the director, is a marine biologist. After watching Paul Driessen's three-minute film, "The Killing of An Egg," he decided to quit teaching in affluent Orange County, California to study experimental animation at CalArts. I've met Driessen myself in Toronto; I shelled out $35 to buy his autographed book (mainly in Dutch and French), and another $10 to sit with a beer across his table in the hope of catching even a murmur of his genius. One Driessen influence that I can pinpoint in the SpongeBob film is when Plankton gets trampled like a gum under SpongeBob's shoe several times. With each trudge, the audience would laugh sadistically.

When I find a completely entertaining movie like this one, I don't feel like writing about it and spoiling what awaits the viewer. I will say this much: It has adventure, comedy, drama, music and dance. It even turns sci-fi at one point, with zombies and brain-zappers, and then goes hip-hop and rock. Two scenes stand out for me—the fluorescent background and layout in the trench before they break into Shell City and hairy David Hasselhoff's "Baywatch" parody. Even the limitations are memorable in themselves. What could be more limiting than a sponge being dehydrated motionless by a strong lamp, or being frozen, as in Mr. Krab's case, for half of the movie?

DAKOTA Fanning and Robert De Niro star in "Hide and Seek" PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLYWOOD.COM



STEPHEN Hillenburg "directs" Patrick and SpongeBob.

The characters don't move but they still manage to emote. There's only one major female character here—Mindy, King Neptune's daughter who manages to give the main characters a false sense of self and security. There's also the alluring ice cream mistress tempting SpongeBob like Adam's Eve. Being so, this is not your usual boys' club animation. This movie will win your heart and, at the same time, thrill you with unexpected twists. I spent a lot by taking the kids with me and, inspired by the movie, pigging out on fast food later, but I swear they will remember me for this. They did ask me to buy them SpongeBob stuffed toys but I told them we already had one at home, next to the kitchen sink. Later, I showed them my yellow sponge, similar to the one that inspired Hillenburg.

ELVIRA: Enough already. So you had a better time watching a movie with your under-13 relatives than with me. But are they anything like Dakota Fanning? She's the female version of Hayley Joel Osment, who saw dead people in the movie "The Sixth Sense." Fanning was so good in "Hide and Seek," she upstaged De Niro. She with her Bette Davis eyes and vacuous look. How could De Niro let this happen? I think it was intentional. The director wanted the viewer to focus on Fanning to get the attention away from De Niro, because like "The Sixth Sense," this movie has a twist. A rather insipid one, I might add, because if you're into horror movies, you'll see it coming 20 minutes into the film.

After a movie, I usually go to the toilet to eavesdrop on other people's conversations. Some high school kids in cropped tees and low-waist jeans were discussing the end of the movie where Emily was happily drawing a picture with crayons. (SPOILER ALERT!) "Who was the other little girl she drew in the end?" asked one. "I bet she's the neighbor's dead daughter," theorized the other.

Good grief. Didn't they see "Psycho"? Or "Raising Cain"?

Before you see this movie, look up "dissociative identity disorder" (formerly multiple personality disorder) in your handy DSM-IV or the Internet. Or you'll totally miss the point.

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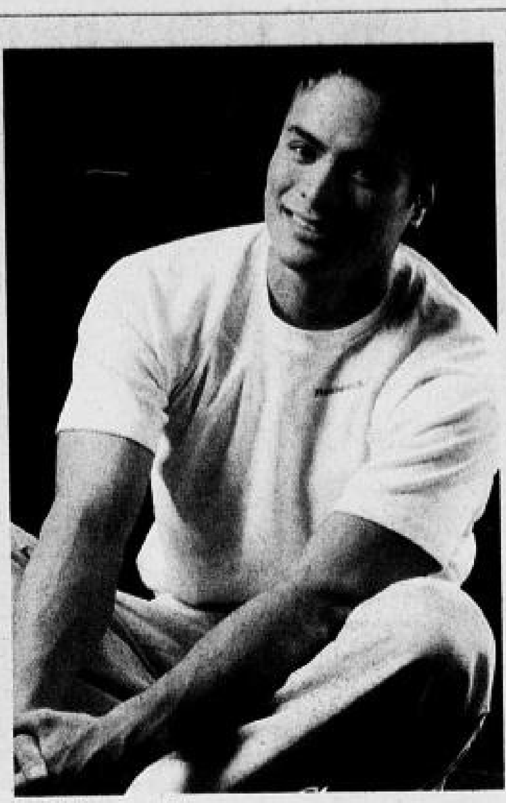

COMFY cotton chino

RACING stripes

Rafael Rossel: Bikini Boy

Text, styling and direction
by Larry Leviste

... AND a grin to go

RAFAEL Rossel is half-Filipino, half-Norwegian. His smiling face and sculpted body will be seen in " Bikini Open," a sex comedy starring Diana Zubiri and slated to open on May 10.

"I arrived in 2001 and spoke no Tagalog. I'm proud to say I speak it fluently in my upcoming movie," says Rafael.

"My first big break was a Close-Up toothpaste commercial," he recalled. "Then I joined ABS-CBN's Star Circle Batch 9 with Michelle Bayle and Luis Alandy. My first movie was *'Kung Ikaw ay Isang Panaginip'* with Jolina Magdangal for Star Cinema."

He is the eldest in a brood of three, all boys. His family lives in Abu Dhabi but visits Rafael often in his rented studio near the ABS-CBN compound. He says they are all very supportive of his career.

"My best experience in acting was the *teleserye* 'Marina,' where I played the mortal boyfriend of Gretchen Baretto. I came in on Week 8, and I initially felt like an outsider," he recounts.

He had to attend workshops and learn to stay busy in the far-flung locations—beaches in Calatagan, Batangas, and hidden caves in Antipolo.

"There would be no cell phone signals or land lines, and the cast and crew would bond like one big happy family. We would take turns cooking or watching DVD films, or just napping outdoors. Joel Torre became my good friend," says Rafael.

His girlfriend is model Wan Wan Reyes. They hosted the "Lovapalooza" kissing marathon in Davao in February."

"My father taught us to follow our dreams. I guess I am living that dream right now, " says Rafael. What would he like to do next ? "I would love to host a beauty pageant and have a talk show," he says.

To stay in shape, and because he loves *sisig* and *adobo*, Rafael says he has to work out four times a week.

Outside of show biz, he manages a jewelry line called Glisk. "It's made of silver, Murano glass and pearls," he says. "Sales are really brisk. Snooky and Agot Isidro were my first customers. We sell in Rajo's House of Laurel, Sonare Club Spa and Cladd on Morato."

He likes being in business. "Math was my favorite subject in college," he explains. "I love numbers."

Ryan Agoncillo would marry Judy Ann Santos any time

By Nini Valera

AGONCILLO

"I WILL marry Judy Ann (Santos) if she says yes. I will ask her to marry me if I find the guts to do so."

This came from television talk show host Ryan Agoncillo, 26, who has been dating Judy Ann for several months now.

But like any show biz romance, the Ryan-Juday coupling—although flaunted by both camps on national television—is shrouded with uncertainty.

For one, Ryan refused to define their current relationship, preferring to respond to direct questions (like, is he seeing Juday?) with vague, generic answers.

"I see her every day," he said, referring to their almost daily tapings for "Krystalla."

But he admitted that he's smitten with her and fascinated by her.

No crush

"It's not a crush," Ryan qualified. "I'm 26, and crush is a word that would not longer apply to me."

Is he courting her?

"Courtship, no."

Are they lovers?

"Lovers, no."

Do they date?

"Yes, but always on group dates," said Ryan. "You see, we both have very busy schedules. So when we go out with friends, we'd call up each other and ask each other to join."

Do they kiss?

"Do you really think I would answer that? If I say yes, then I'm not a gentleman. If I say no, then I'm such a loser," Ryan said, deftly evading the question.

Where exactly are they at?

"We're exceptionally close," was all Ryan would say.

Whatever their relationship, it appears to have the approval of Judy Ann's brother Jeffrey Santos and her manager, the formidable Alfie Lorenzo.

But Ryan was quick to debunk any notion that he needed approval—from anybody.

"In getting into a relationship, the only approval I seek is from the person (I'm getting involved with)," he said. "About Alfie's approval, it's not like he told me I approve of you. My relationship with Alfie is like he would joke with me about not accepting the offer to star with Judy Ann in the movie "Love Text." He has always teased me about refusing the role. So when I auditioned for 'Krystalla,' he called me and told me, *'Sa wakas, matutuloy na* (Finally, it's going to happen)."

Ryan stressed that his thing with Judy Ann is definitely not a gimmick.

"You know how it works in show biz," he said. "(If it were a gimmick), I would have done this when we were starting 'Krystala' to promote the show and to promote myself."

One of the most enduring TV talk show hosts, Ryan has finally decided to get into acting.

"After 'Krystala,' (which wraps up in a few weeks time), I've changed my mind about acting," he explained. "I wasn't ready before. But I enjoy it a lot now. 'Krystala' was a breakaway from hosting."

One of the most astute businessmen among his peers—he owns a bar, a recording studio and a post-production outfit—Ryan has also planned his show biz career in deliberate fashion. Even with movie scripts written specially for him, Ryan had the foresight to turn down said offers, unwittingly creating the impression that his career had stalled.

"I felt like I couldn't compete with them," Ryan explained, referring to the likes of Piolo Pascual, Jericho Rosales and Diether Ocampo. "They're actors, so I wouldn't fight with them. This decision didn't stall my career; it allowed my hosting to grow. Six years later, I'm still a host.

Endearing

"Last year, I felt that after five years of hosting, I could branch out (into acting). If I did that before, I wouldn't have created my niche."

As well as enduring, Ryan is an endearing host—as his show, "Y-Speak" on Channel 23, has proved to its teen audience. With co-host Bianca Gonzalez, Ryan discusses issues that are important to the youth—their angst, their agonies, their joys and triumphs, or their simply being young. The show goes on live, which to Ryan is what hosting is all about—a spontaneous interaction with people without the safeguard of a delay broadcast or editing.

Today (Sunday), Ryan, who is celebrating his birthday, takes the hot seat when the show tackles the subject of secret love. Judy Ann, of course, will be a special guest.

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Pitt denies rumored affair with Jolie

NEW YORK—Brad Pitt denied a report of romance with Angelina Jolie, claiming the Us Weekly story was "completely untrue."

In its April 18 issue, Us Weekly proclaims on its cover, "It's True!" over separate photos of Pitt, 41, and the 29-year-old Jolie. In a story inside, Us quotes employees of a California hotel who claim they saw the two actors being affectionate.

"Because these tabloids are making so much money, and yes, I consider Us Weekly a tabloid, they go to great lengths to corroborate their stories, whether true or not," Pitt told the show "Access Hollywood" in an interview set to air Thursday.

Jennifer Aniston recently filed for divorce from Pitt after four and a half years of marriage.

AP

BRAD and Angelina, current co-stars

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DERMOT MULRONEY
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2	**SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS THE MOVIE** 11:20, 1:40, 4:00 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 GP	
3	**SAHARA** 11:56, 2:45, 5:35 8:25, 11:05 PG-13	
4	**HIDE AND SEEK** 10:35, 1:05, 4:35 6:05, 8:35, 11:00 PG-13	

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CLOSER **R13** 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	**THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE** **GP** 11:30,1:40,3:50,6:00 **BE COOL** **PG13** 7:45,10:15	**THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE** **GP** 1:10,3:20,5:30,7:40,9:50
HIDE AND SEEK **PG13** 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	**THE PACIFIER** **GP** 11:15,1:25,3:35, 6:45,7:55,10:10	**SAHARA** **PG13** 12:15,2:45,5:15,7:45,10:20

SECOND WEEK
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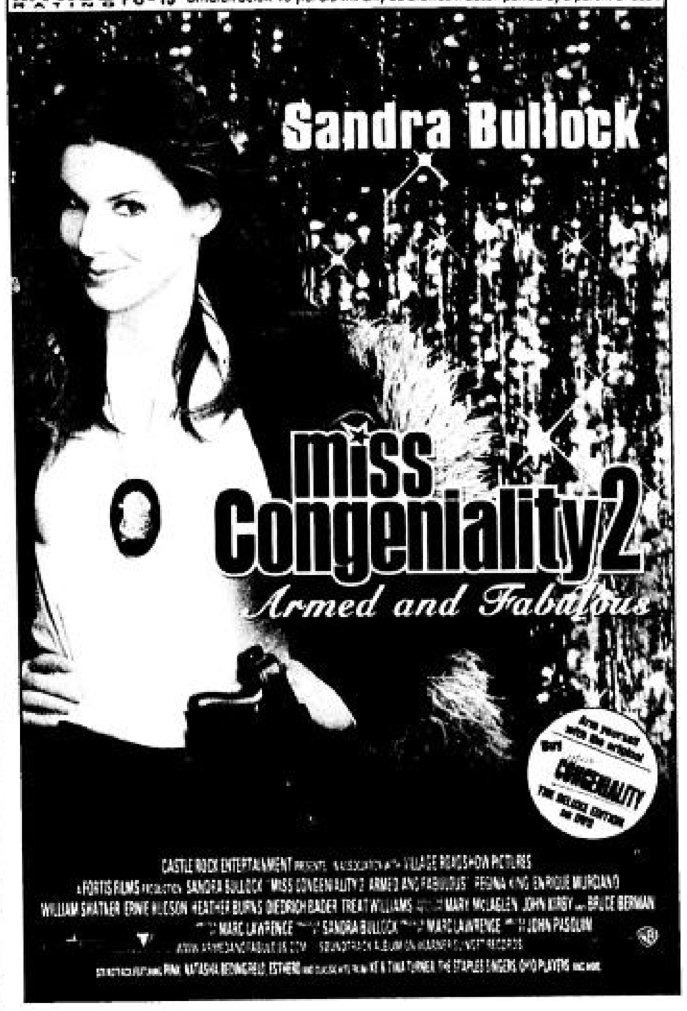
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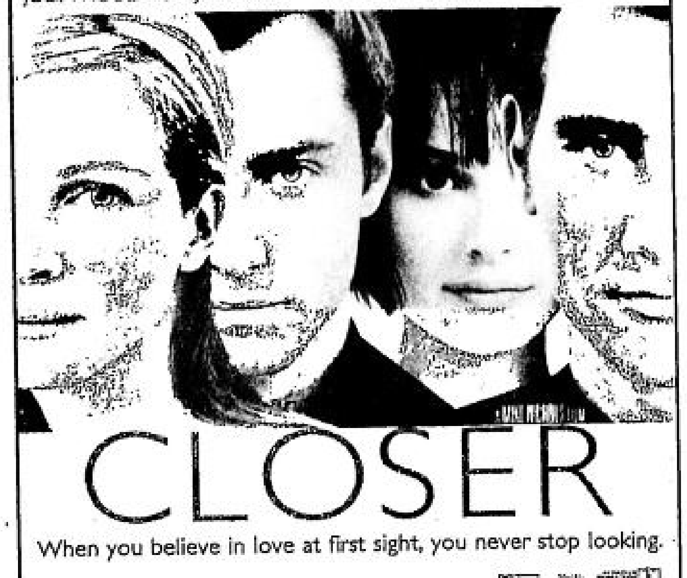

When you believe in love at first sight, you never stop looking.
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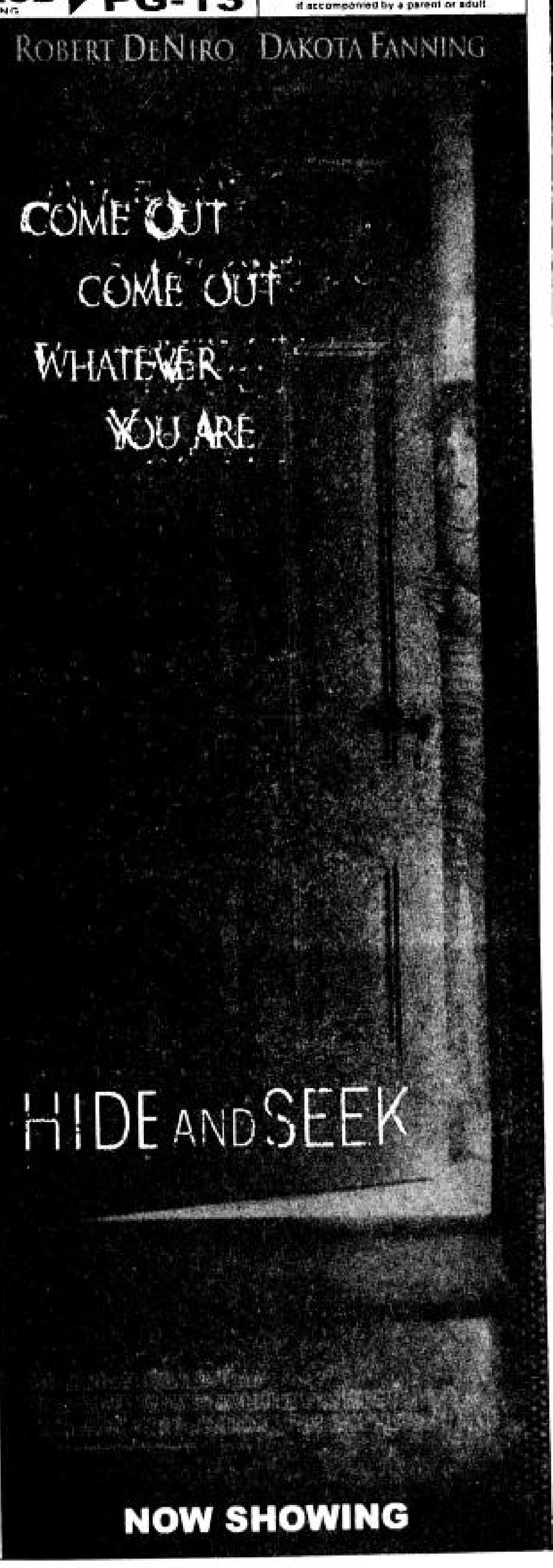
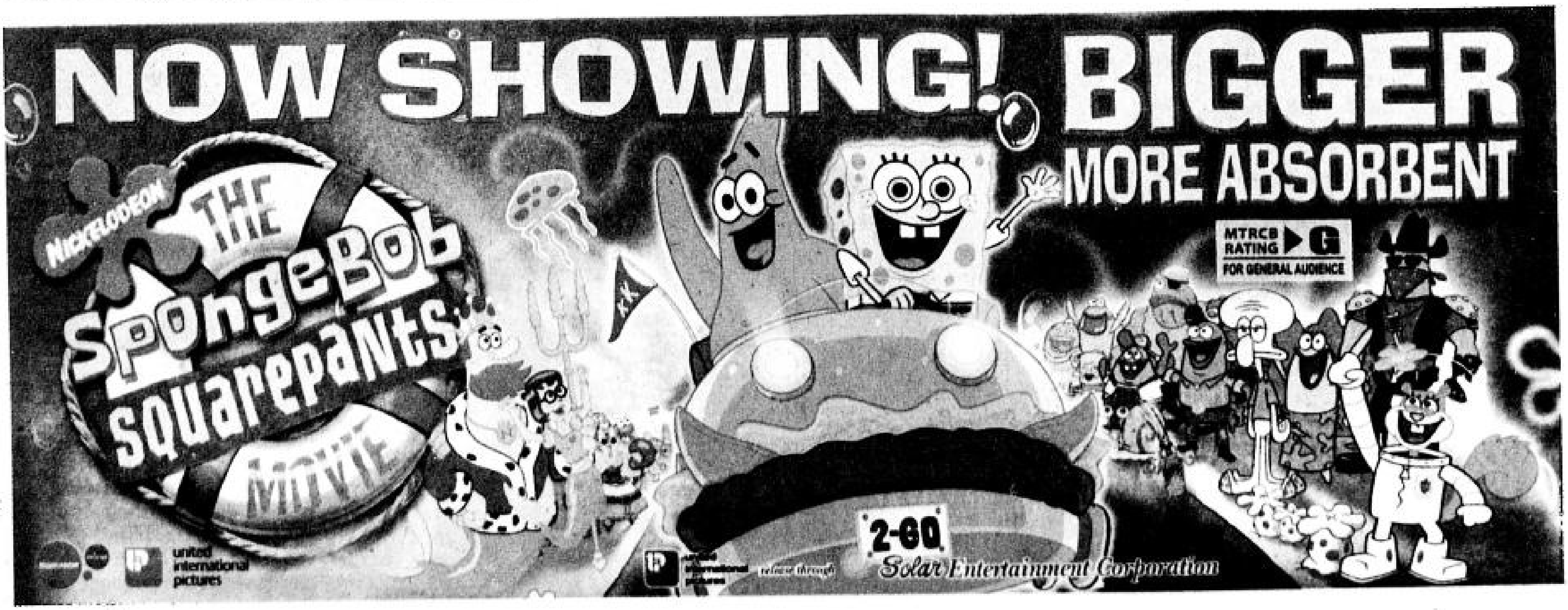

ROBERT DENIRO DAKOTA FANNING
COME OUT
COME OUT
WHATEVER
YOU ARE
HIDE AND SEEK
NOW SHOWING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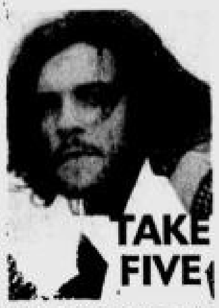


ORLANDO Bloom

Turning American

ORLANDO Bloom stars in Ridley Scott's "Kingdom of Heaven."

You knew Ridley Scott from "Black Hawk Down." Were you happy to work with him again?

I read the script on the plane and 24 hours later I was standing in front of the camera. I wanted it badly.

Shooting in Morocco was tough, wasn't it?

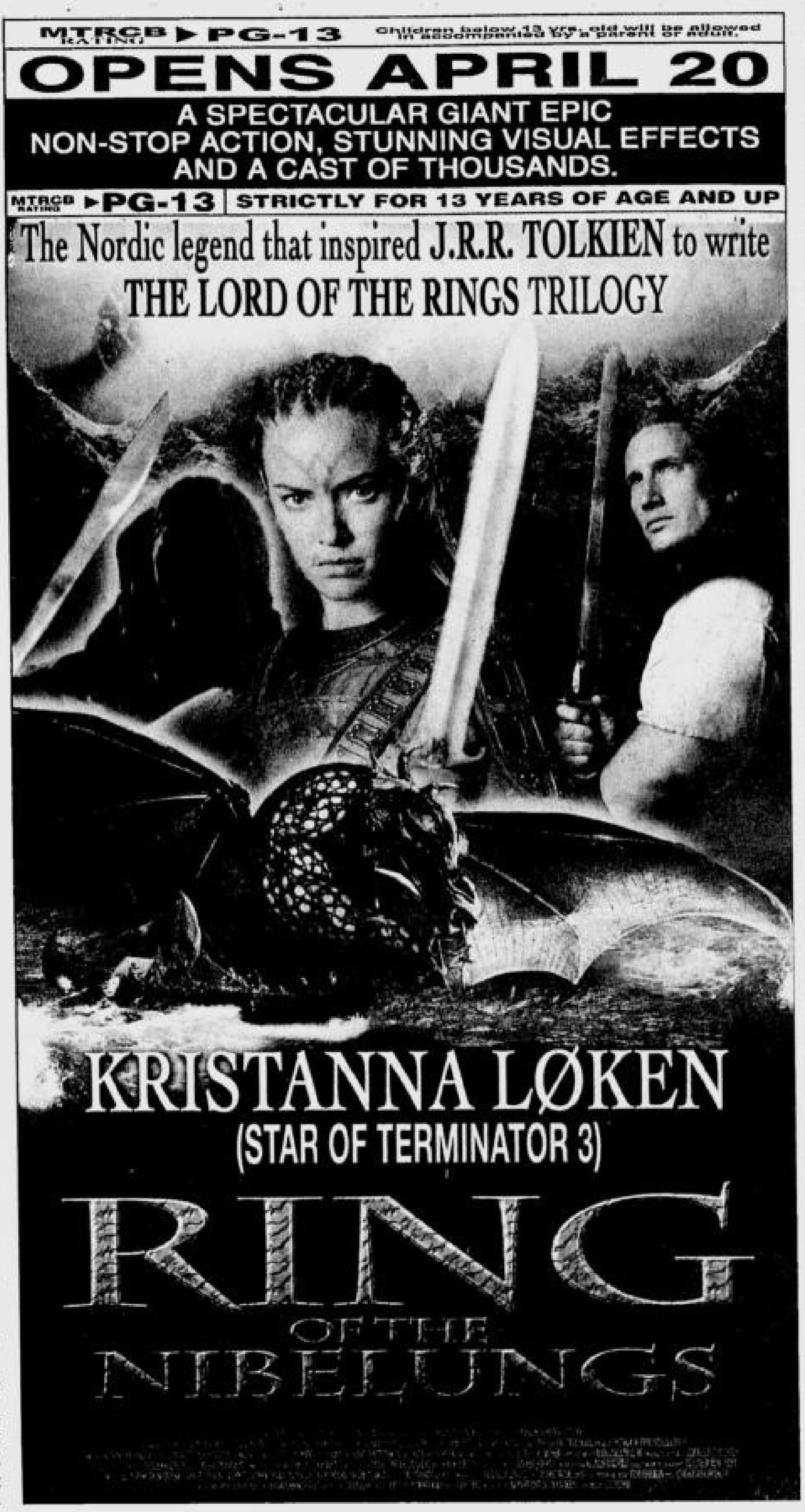
Ridley loves to create atmosphere on cam. If there was a dust storm, great, let's get out there and shoot! There was the crew with huge goggles, and me with eyes squinting, waving sword in the air and going, "Charge!"

You went straight from playing a holy warrior to being seeker in Cameron Crowe's "Elizabethtown"?

It was my first time doing an American accent. I had a great coach, but I was caught by how draining it was to stay on it the whole time.

What sticks with you from the songs he played on a boombox during scenes?

Bob Dylan's "Mr. Tambourine Man." Now, I've done that before, picked a piece of music to help build the character from ... but not had it playing in the middle of a take. It really took me to another place.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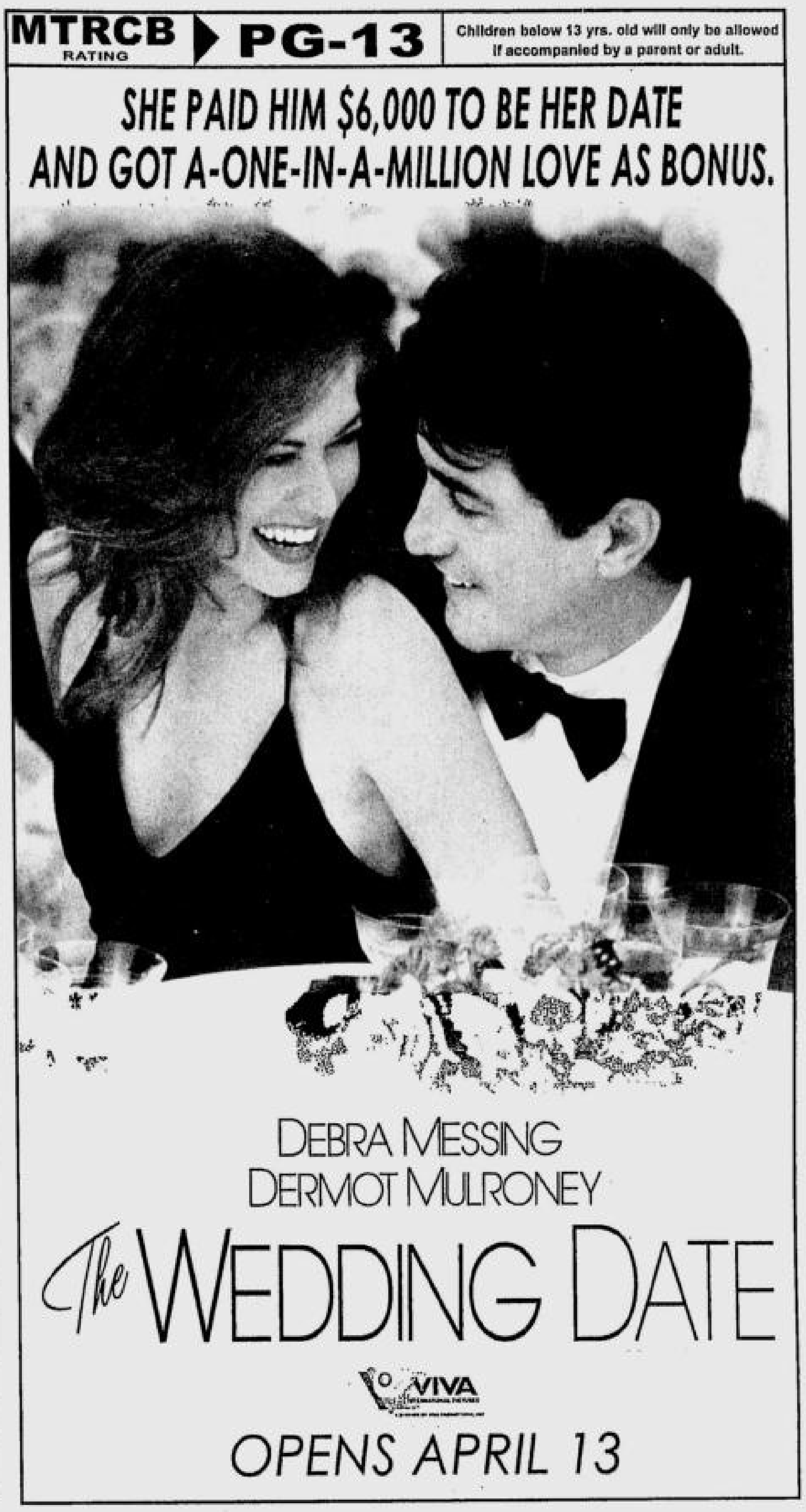
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SHE PAID HIM $6,000 TO BE HER DATE
AND GOT A-ONE-IN-A-MILLION LOVE AS BONUS.
DEBRA MESSING
DERMOT MULRONEY
The WEDDING DATE
VIVA
OPENS APRIL 13

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MTRCB GP
10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
② CLOSER
MTRCB: R-13
12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
③ THE PACIFIER
MTRCB: GP
12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
④ SAHARA
MTRCB: PG-13
10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00
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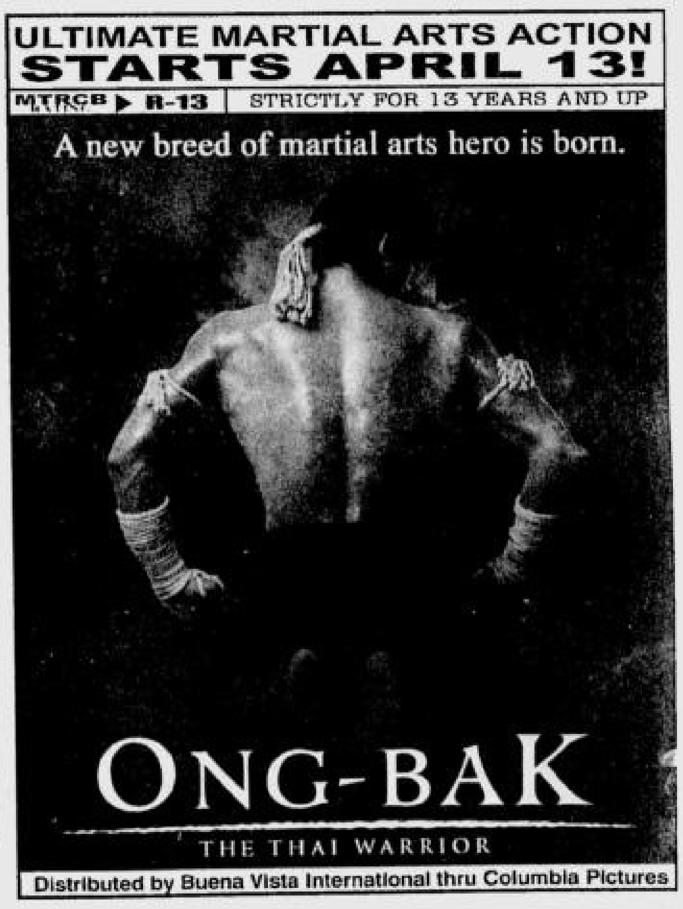
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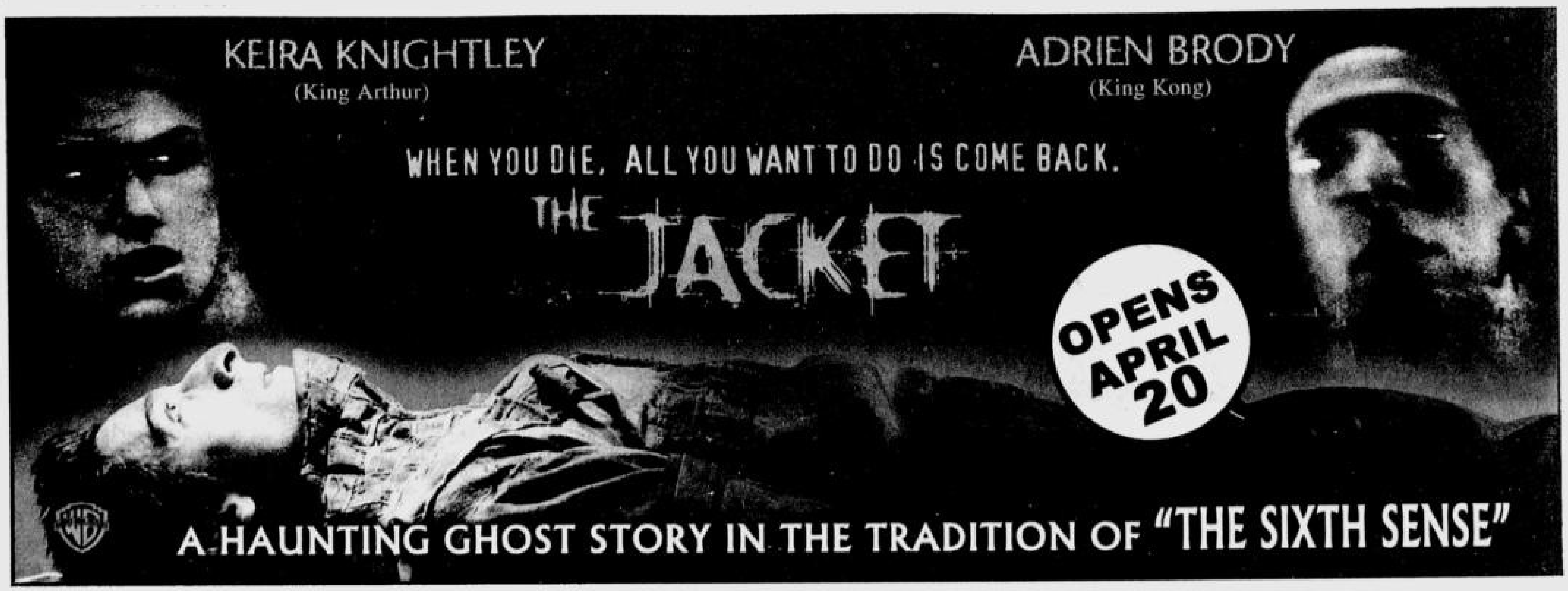
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(King Arthur)
ADRIEN BRODY
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- P10 per call challenge promo is open only to post-paid residential subscribers.

'AMERICAN IDOL 4' QUOTES
Nikko Smith, voted out on Wednesday: "Y"all gonna see me again."
Fantasia Barrino, last year's champ, to the current contestants: "Get up here [onstage] and act ugly!"

US TV rediscovers religion

LOS ANGELES—The Gospel according to Mel, as the TV industry views it, is that religion sells.

With Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" ranked among the 10 highest-grossing movies ever, and with glowing visions of "The Da Vinci Code" profits before them, TV networks are embracing a newfound faith.

A miniseries about the Book of Revelation airs next week, while shows about a Catholic priest probing the supernatural and an Episcopalian minister who converses with God are on the drawing board.

Traditionally soft-focused spirituality, exemplified by "Touched by an Angel" and "Joan of Arcadia," is giving way to programs rooted in specific religions and their elements.

Do networks have a prayer of turning stronger fare into ratings winners?

There are believers—especially those connected to the shows—and doubters.

When "Revelations" was pitched to four networks, they "all bit," said executive producer Gavin Palone, who sold the project to NBC before Gibson's film was released. Debuting April 13, the miniseries is about a scientist and a nun investigating evidence that the "End of Days" as predicted in the Bible is near.

"I think the thing that's surprising is that it's taken so long," Palone said.

One producer, whose drama about a priest lasted a few scant months in the 1997-98 season on ABC, has his own reservations about whether bold network shows about faith are feasible.

"Nothing Sacred," created by David Manson and Bill Cain, a Jesuit priest, won critical acclaim and awards but couldn't capture an audience in a time slot opposite NBC's popular "Friends."

If "Revelations" succeeds, Palone predicts, there will be "10 copies of it"—and if it bombs, it could kill the trend before it starts.

"It's ultimately a business," he said.

AP

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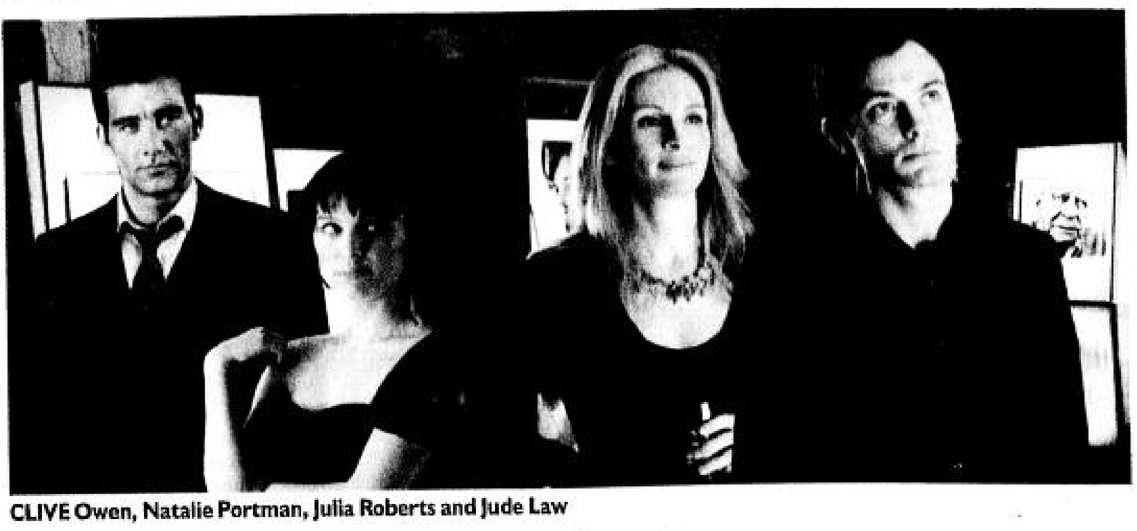

CLIVE Owen, Natalie Portman, Julia Roberts and Jude Law

Love hurts

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

'Closer' impresses with its honesty and daring

WHEN people fall in love, they vow to do everything for their beloved. With heart in hand, they promise to make life more beautiful for their loved ones—then many of them proceed to do the exact opposite.

After the resulting emotional carnage is over, both victims and victimizers pick up the pieces and try again. If they haven't learned their lesson, however, they'll continue to pledge true, undying devotion for their new loved ones, but proceed to do their unloving, unlovable worst.

That's the desultory scenario that unfolds again and again in **Mike Nichols'** current film, "Closer," with **Julia Roberts, Clive Owen, Natalie Portman** and **Jude Law** playing both victims and victimizers.

Based on a stage play by **Patrick Marber**, the film impresses with its shockingly honest look at the ugly side of love. It's ugly for one main reason: three of the four characters can't be loyal to their chosen loved one, because they have no ethical backbone, and want it all.

These adults with petulant, childish proclivities make life miserable for each other. They repeatedly apologize for their sexual concupiscence, but they keep riding roughshod all over each other's feelings.

The lone exception is the "worst" sinner of the lot—Portman's stripper character. It's she who should be scraping the bottom of the ethical barrel, and yet she's the one who utters the movie's thematically cautionary line: When temptation presents itself, you can always say no!

That's a lesson that the three other characters have yet to learn. Roberts gets heavily, steamily involved with both Owens and Law, and the two men sequentially passes Portman's nubile character, but when push comes to shove, they're the ones who turn wanton, not she.

In fact the game of musical beds they play becomes so frenetic that they change partners as often as most people change underwear (that's daily, hopefully)!

Some of the tension generated is felt most intensely by the two macho males, who treat their female conquests as trophies to beat each other over the head with.

This primal competition of modern-day cavemen takes a bizarre turn when Law pretends to be a woman and brazenly "seduces" Owens on the Internet!

Ironically, Law's weirdly puckish prank boomerangs on him, because it enables Roberts to meet Owens, and their instant affair complicates his life.

"Closer" is full of such ironic twists and turns, as Marber and Nichols share with viewers their gimlet-eyed view of love, lust, deception, romantic larceny, murders of the heart, and all that.

When you watch the movie, pay attention to the dialogue, which is replete with sharp-edged zingers that cut to the emotional and psychological quick.

We are also impressed with Nichols' refusal to "open up" the intimate drama to the outside world, a rigorous decision that gives the film the focus and power it requires.

Also admirable are the performances turned in by the four leads, who bravely bare their hearts and libidos for all to gawk at—and hopefully learn from.

Surprisingly, it's Portman who turns in the most arresting portrayal of all, as she leaves her signature "sweet" screen image far behind, and transforms herself into a daring young-adult actress—with a vengeance.

"Ludus"

ON April 15 and 16, Casa San Miguel in San Antonio, Zambales spotlights dance music as it premieres "Ludus," an experimental collaboration of dance artist **Myra Beltran** and her Dance Forum with the Pundaquit Virtuosi and Airdance.

To be performed is chamber music by Paert, Bloch and Bach, rendered in contemporary dance choreographed by Beltran, **Paul Morales** and **Ernest Mandap**.

Casa San Miguel is also holding summer workshops for strings, theater and visual arts. Call 903-8657.

Feedback

FROM documentarist **Howie G. Severino**: "I am writing to convey my deep appreciation for your crusade to improve local television and cinema. I hope that those who make decisions about these industries take your constructive criticism to heart.

"As a maker of TV documentaries, I have a stake in reforms that will lead to introducing non-conventional and edifying programming to mass audiences. The struggle now for our very late-night documentary show, 'I-Witness,' is to prove that it deserves the wider audience of earlier timeslots.

"But even at such a late hour, our show's longevity in a fickle industry, I think, demonstrates that it has built up a critical mass of loyal viewers willing to stay up just to watch documentaries.

"I am inviting your discerning readers to watch our sixth anniversary series of documentaries every Monday this month.

Thank you for your concern about TV's impact on our society."

Kristanna Loken

'RING OF THE NIBELUNGS' inspires J.R.R. TOLKIEN to write the LORD OF THE RING TRILOGY

TERMINATRIX IS BACK!

Kristanna Loken the 5'11 beauty who played the Terminatrix in TERMINATOR 3: Rise Of The Machines is back as an amazon queen in this year's Nordic epic RING OF THE NIBELUNGS.

Kristanna Loken began her modeling career at the early age of 15. Encouraged by her mother, Rande who was a model prior to her daughter's birth, Kristanna's modeling career, as well as her aspirations in acting brought her to New York where she now resides. The glamorous actress/ model, seems to have stayed true to her roots: her father, Chris, owns an apple farm in upstate New York where he writes novels and screenplays. Aside from establishing herself as a supermodel with an Elite contract, Kristanna has made numerous television appearances as well as what could be her breakthrough film role in Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines (2003) opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger.

J.R.R. TOLKIEN

"J.R.R. Tolkien said that the Ring of the Nibelungs saga was an inspiration for his *Lord of the Rings* trilogy," says exec producer Tim Halkin. "If you dig down deep around the roots of Tolkien's story, you will find some very subtle similarities to the Nibelung saga."

QUEST FOR THE RING CONTINUES

Columbia Tri Star and **Tandem Communications** present this epic fantasy adventure directed by **Uli Edel** (*"The Mists of Avalon"*) with Visual Effects directed by **Academy Award®**-winner **Volker Engel** ("Independence Day").

In a time lost to history, when the gods still walked among us, they sent a warrior to reclaim the mystic all powerful gold ring that was stolen by an evil lord.

In the hands of evil, the ring had plunged the world into endless battle and bloodshed.

This is the saga of Siegfried the dragon-slayer, and his quest for the Ring of the Nibelungs.

ADVT.

25 years of Monique i

SIXTEEN years after playing the lead role of Kim in the original West End production of "Miss Saigon," and with over 120 theater productions behind her, Monique celebrates 25 in theater with an anniversary concert at the Music Museum on April 30.

"Monique—25 Years In Theatre" is also a birthday celebration, as the actress turns 35 next month. The show will recall her younger years in Repertory Philippines, her years in London doing "Miss Saigon," and the last 10 years as founder, artistic director and resident actress of New Voice Company, now one of Asia's leading theater groups..

Monique was last seen onstage with NVC's production of "Cabaret the Musical" as Sally Bowles. She recently received the 2004 Tinig Award for Best Broadway Singer. She was the recipient of a 1998 TOWNS (The Outstanding Women of the Nation) award for her achievements in theater arts.

In her anniversary concert, Monique will perform numbers from "Miss Saigon," "Phantom of the Opera," "Whistle Down the Wind," "Pippin," "The Wiz," "Godspell," "Children of Eden" and "Sunset Boulevard."

Her special guests are Cocoy Laurel and her brother Jamie Wilson, the Ugoy Ugoy band, Lynn Sherman, and 9-year-old singing sensation Julia Abueva. Plus the members of the NVC including Jenny Jamora, Rito Asilo, Rabbi Gannaban, and Pheona Baranda.

The concert is conceptualized and directed by Monique Wilson, with assistant direction by Rito Asilo. Rossana Abueva is executive producer.

Call 896-6695 or 896-5497, e-mail nvc@pldtdsl.net, or visit www.newvoicecompany.com.

SHOW TIME

Today

Judy Ann Santos visits Metropolis Star-

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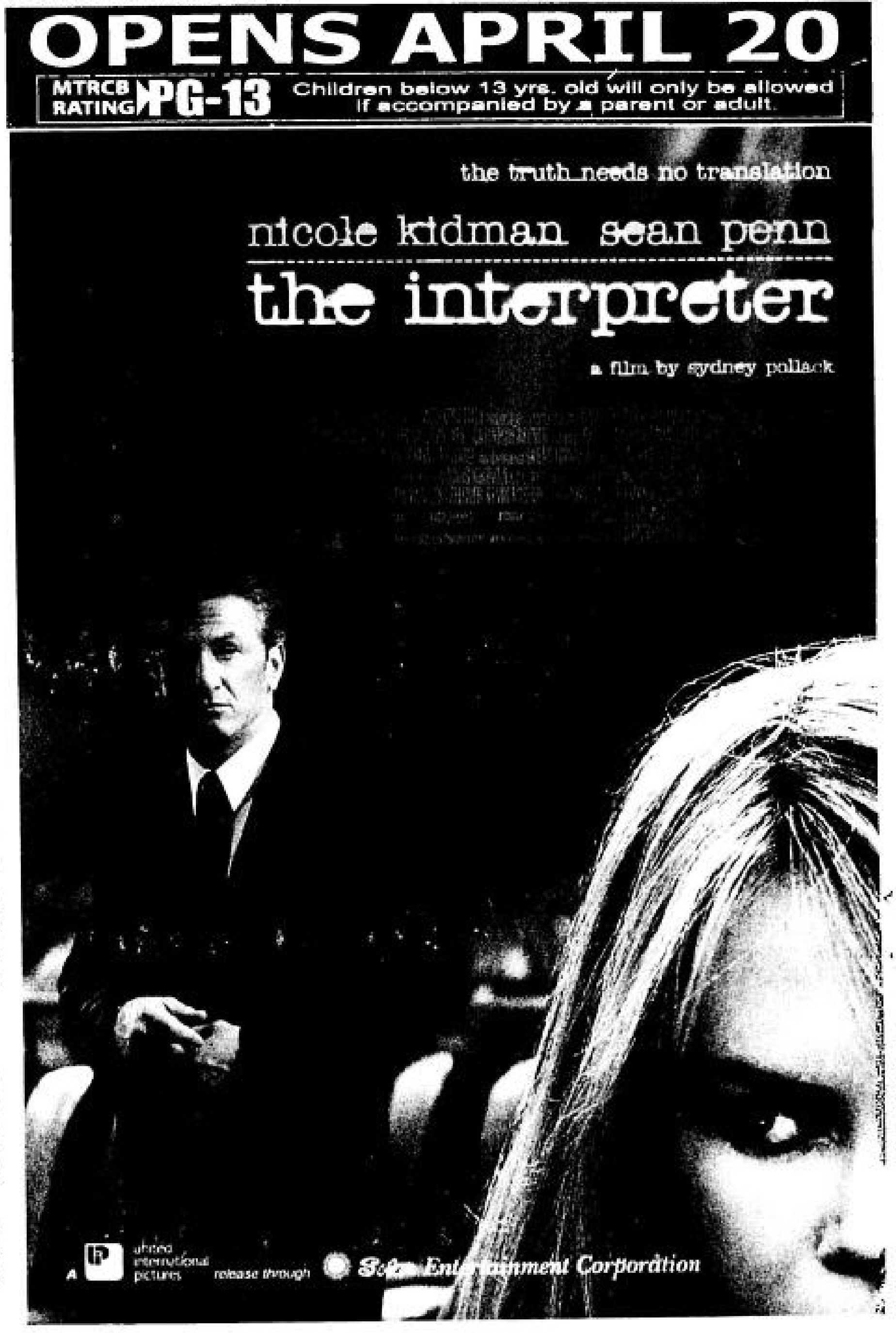


OPENS APRIL 20

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

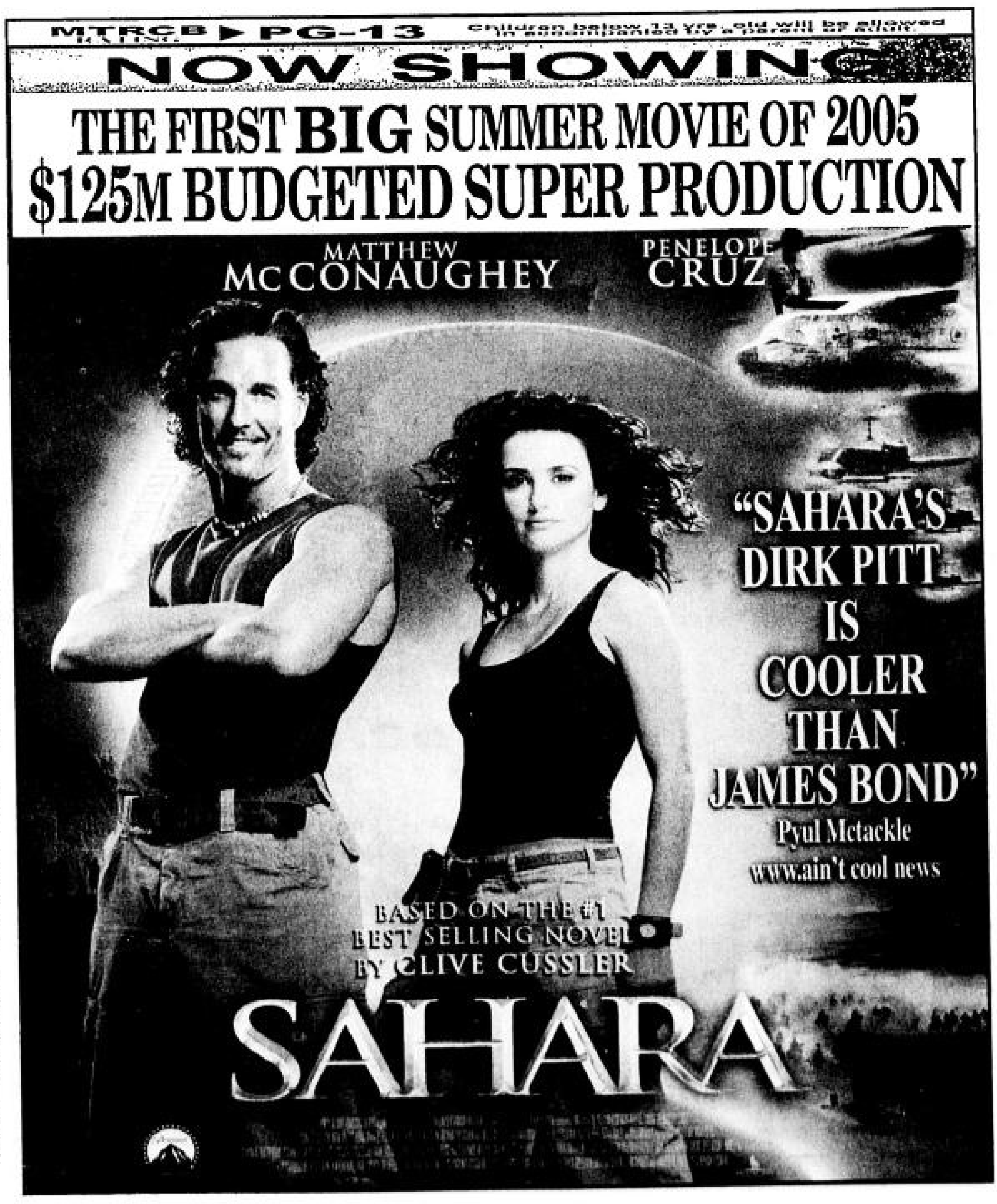
the truth needs no translation

nicole kidman sean penn

the interpreter

a film by sydney pollack

A united international pictures release through [illegible] Entertainment Corporation



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n one anniversary show

p.m.
: Curtis and Geoff Eigenmann at
zza Company in Market! Market!,

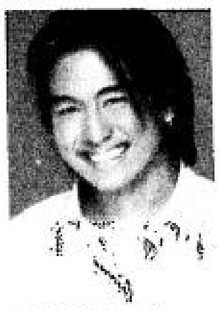
chelle Anne Go at Robinsons Dasmariñas.

"Summer Loving," featuring **Rainier Castillo**, is the first offering of the "StarStruck Superstar" concert series at **Enchanted Kingdom** 7 p.m.

Highway 69 band plays at **Hard**
afe Sundays.

rrow

Cabangon in "Bangon Silangan!" at
undation, BPI Bldg., Ayala Avenue,
10:30 a.m. The show aims to revive
awareness on the situation in Aurora
ezon provinces
band **South Border** at Malate's **Sub-**
ar
h Banal with Evolution at 19 East
9115555
hanice Michael at Gateway
ll in Araneta Center, 9:30
n.
Blue Ketchup at **Taste Buds**,
binsons Place Manila, 7 p.m.
Wally Gonzales and Friends,
garfree, **True Faith**, **Pido**
h Take One and **Kearney**
eet back-to-back at **19 East**
sic Hall. Call 837-6903.
Acoustic Jive at **Merk's**.



RAINIER Castillo

Music Hall Mondays. Call 837-6903.

U-Turn at **Party Central** on Mother Ignacia Street, QC.

Main Avenue at **Hard Rock**.

Bernie Uy at **Merk's**.

April 12

Shanice Michael at the **Syncopado Piano Bar and Resto** in Malate, Tuesdays.

Side A at **19 East Music Hall**. Call 837-6903.

Viva Hotmen, **Alken Miranda**, **Mcmil Denison** and **Paolo Serrano** in **Toilet Humor's** primetime special.

April 13

Animae at **Suburbia** in Malate

Freestyle at **19 East Music Hall**. Call 837-6903.

Jazz festival at **Merk's** with **Mon David**, **Eddie Katindig** and **Richard Merk**, Wednesdays.

April 13 and 14

King in his first major solo concert, "King on Top of the World," at **Music Museum, 9 p.m.** Call 721-6726.

April 14

The Cascades at **Hard Rock Café**, featuring Ramon Jacinto & Friends, and The Elderly Brothers. Call 911-5555

Nyoy Volante w/ Mannos at **Suburbia** in Malate

Robert Seña and **Isay Alvarez** in a benefit show, "Love You, Hate You, Love You," at **Merk's**

Sheryn Regis at **Toilet Humor** in Malate.

Track at **Tavern on the Square**.

April 15

Cascades at the **Araneta Coliseum** with **Willie Nepomuceno**.

MONIQUE Wilson (center) with **NVC** actors

ril 16
he **Cascades** at the **Waterfront Hotel Cebu**, with
a One as guest performers.
ivermaya and **Kitchie Nadal** at the **Araneta Colise-**
with newcomers **Spongecola** and **Juana** as guests.
911-5555.
retha and the Souled Out Band at **Merk's**. Call 911-
5.

ril 17
"StarStruck Superstar" concert series at **Enchanted**
gdom, 7 p.m.
achelle Ann Go at **Robinsons Pioneer**.
ighway 69 at **Hard Rock Cafe**
ruzin' at **Merk's**

ril 18
eystone Band at **Suburbia** in Malate.
udith Banal with Evolution at **19 East Music Hall**.
837-6903.
reestyle at **Tavern on the Square**.
ain Avenue at **Hard Rock Cafe**.
ernie Uy at **Merk's**.

ril 19
reeverse at **Suburbia** in Malate, Tuesdays
.Y.M.P. at **19 East Music Hall**. Call 837-6903.
hanice Michael at **Syncopado Piano Bar and Resto**
alate

ril 20
24/7 at **Suburbia** in Malate
oy Symphony at **19 East Music Hall**. Call 837-6903
ernie Uy at **Merk's**

ril 21
obert Seña and **Isay Alvarez** in "Love You, Hate You,
e You," at **Merk's**
yoy Volante w/ Mannos at **Suburbia** in Malate

ril 22
ally Gonzales and Friends, **Sugarfree**, **True Faith**,
o with **Take One** and **Kearney Street** will have back-
ack performances at **19 East Music Hall**. Call 837-
3.
anacea at **Taste Buds Robinsons Place Manila**, 7
.
at Session at **Tavern on the Square**.
ocha with Spinart at **Hard Rock Cafe**.
coustic Jive at **Merk's**

ril 23
A Rule at **Araneta Coliseum**, 9 p.m. Call 911-5555
oyz II Men at the **PhilSports Arena (Ultra)**, with Ky-
s guest. Call Ticketworld, 891-9999

ril 24
StarStruck Superstar" at
hanted Kingdom, 7 p.m.
achelle Ann Go at Robin-
s Metro East.
ighway 69 at Hard Rock
e

ril 25
eystone Band at Suburbia
alate
udith Banal with Evolution
9 East Music Hall. Call 837-
3.

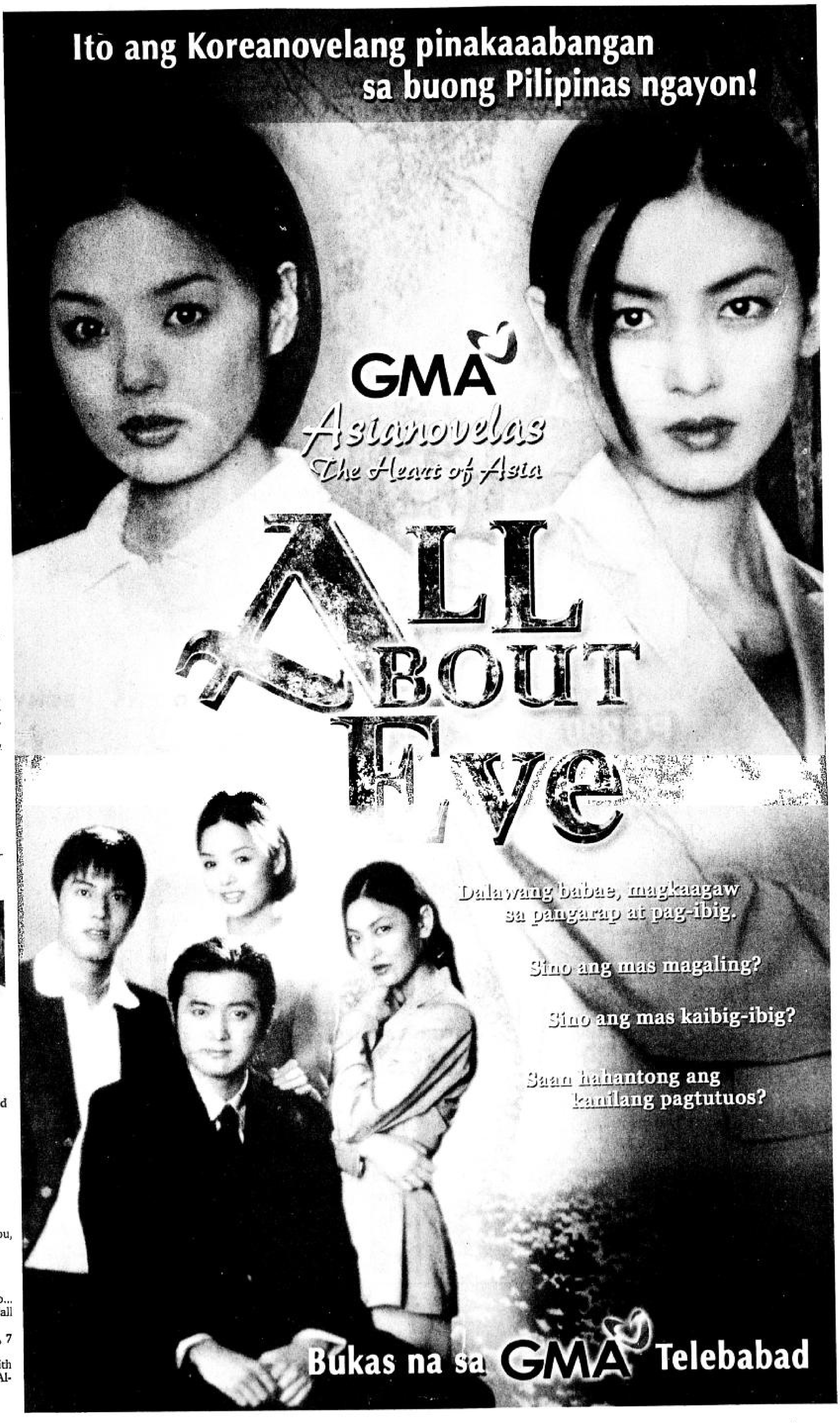
KITCHIE Nadal

ril 26
hanice Michael at the **Syncopado Piano Bar and**
to in Malate
ide A at **19 East Music Hall**. Call 837-6903.

ril 27
24/7 at **Suburbia** in Malate
reestyle at **19 East Music Hall**. Call 837-6903
ernie Uy at **Merk's**

ril 28
obert Seña and **Isay Alvarez** in "Love You, Hate You,
e You," at **Merk's**
yoy Volante w/ Mannos at **Suburbia** in Malate

ril 29
ito Camo takes center stage in "Lagi na Lang Kayo...
Naman!" at the **Music Museum**, 8:30 p.m. Call
9999.
ucid Band at **Taste Buds** Robinsons Place Manila, 7
.
achelle Ann Go in concert at **Aliw Theater** with
k Bautista, Christian Bautista, Jay-R and Ogie Al-
id as special guests.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Sino ang mas kaibig-ibig?
Saan hahantong ang
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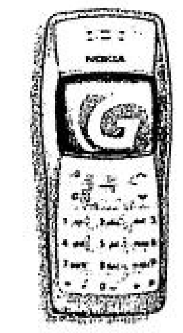

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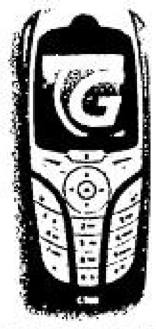

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Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

He could have been boss in family firms but he wanted to strike out on his own

AURELIO "Gigi" Montinola III today

CHILDHOOD days

THE THREE Aurelios: 7-year-old Gigi with Lolo (Aurelio Montinola Sr.) and Father (Aurelio Montinola Jr.)

HENNEBONT 2
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N165

HITCH-HIKING in France 1970

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

A CUSHY job with one of the country's leading family corporations was his for the taking, yet Aurelio R. Montinola III passed it up for the chance to make his own name in the corporate world.

And after more than 30 years since he struck out on his own, he was named president of the Bank of the Philippine Islands, officially taking over from long-time BPI president Xavier Loinaz last Jan. 1.

FIRST JOB

It was the culmination of a long, hard climb to the top of the banking world that he had made on his own.

His journey started in 1973 when he worked for Bancom Development Corp., a Filipino-run company that ran its own business as well as, or even better than, the multinationals.

Montinola's first boss was former Ayala Land Inc. president Francisco H. Licuanan III and he got P400 a month.

Licuanan is known in business circles for being demanding, with high standards of excellence. But Montinola thrived under his direction.

"He always asked very detailed questions and he was impatient if you did not come through quickly. But it was good training. That's what you need when you're starting," Montinola tells SundayBiz.

Montinola says he was just supposed to stay in banking for two years, and then work for the family corporations that included Amon Trading and Republic Cement Corp. on his father's side, and Far Eastern University on his mother's.

Working for Filipinos

But he liked working for Bancom so much he never left the industry.

He stayed with Bancom for more than two years, then moved to Citibank NA in 1976, where he stayed for six years as assistant vice president until he got the fateful offer to join BPI in 1982 as vice president for the private banking unit.

Montinola had a good stint at Citibank, where he trained under former Social Security System chief Vitaliano Nañagas II.

But the chance to work again for a Filipino-run company was too good to pass up.

"I liked the idea of working with a Filipino institution where you believe you can do well, contribute to the country and do as well as the multinationals. That was what I liked with Bancom, this sense that the Filipino can do. That was the same reason I had when I went from Citibank to BPI," Montinola says.

He explains that Citibank—while it treated him well—did not really need his talent to make it grow.

"I thought I could contribute more by moving to a Filipino institution that helped Filipino companies," Montinola says.

No regrets

It has been 23 years since that move, and Montinola never regretted it.

He is going full steam ahead and determined to do even more for the bank and its growing base of loyal clients.

"I like banking and I like working for BPI. There is something about working for a good, professional institution. There is that yearning to improve. I always like to think that I am good at improving things. I may not necessarily be an entrepreneur. If you ask me to start a bank, I would not know what to do. But if you give me a bank that I can help improve, I guess that is where I can contribute a lot," Montinola says.

It is not going to be easy, Montinola admits, as Xavier Loinaz, who was at the helm of BPI for more than 20 years and credited for making it one of the biggest in the industry, is a very tough act to follow.

He left behind very large shoes to fill.

The 53-year-old Montinola, however, has a lot going for him - experience, a team of professionals raring to help him achieve his goals, and passion for banking that has not waned since he first got a taste of it.

Having youthful looks, a ready smile and genuine rapport with people from all walks of life do not hurt, either.

Montinola also has a clear direction where he wants to steer the bank, and he is confident that with the support of his employees, the bank will get there despite the challenges facing the industry.

And the challenges are certainly daunting.

"The environment is very challenging. We all know about the fiscal crisis. And we know about the need to regain pride and status of the Philippines. There are also wild cards. Those are some of the items we just have to deal with," Montinola says.

Montinola sees a lot of opportunities in consumer banking, a field Montinola knows like the back of his hand, having headed BPI Family Bank from 1992 to May 2004, before officially becoming an understudy of Loinaz in September last year.

Going full circle

Heading the mother bank entails expanding his view, and he says he will use his first year as head of BPI to reacquaint himself with corporate banking and learn more about the other considerable parts of BPI's business.

"I am going full circle, because before I went into the consumer bank, I was with corporate banking. But that was about 15 years ago. Now, I can start to look a little bit again into the corporate banking side," he says.

"I am also looking into areas where I know a little bit less, like insurance, treasury, information systems. Even investment banking," Montinola adds.

He has set his sights on serving three major stakeholders: customers, employees and the owners.

HE COULD/ B2

Montinola during a Citibank training in Greece, 1978

GIGI and Ging after one year of marriage on Balesin Island, Quezon

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THE EXECUTIVE Centre on the 22nd floor of the Pan Pacific Singapore features "Aeron" chairs by Herman Miller and a panoramic view of the Singapore Skyline.

Embassy visa blues; hotel updates

By Sandra Garcia
Contributor

BUSINESS TRAVEL

IF YOU think Senator Loi Ejercito was given a hard time by a Fil-Am immigration officer in San Francisco you "ain't heard nothin" yet.

There's this story about a young executive at the local office of a German-based global company who was scheduled to leave for Germany a couple of weeks ago with their senior executives to attend conference.

A few weeks before their scheduled departure, he went through the visa application process. There were, unfortunately, unexpected snags along the way. He finally was able to get an appointment just two weeks before leaving.

Not wanting to take his chances, he made it a point to be at the embassy at 6:30 a.m. for his 8:30 a.m. appointment. He was finally received at 9:30 a.m. by *"Ugly Pinay Fraulein."*

During the interview "Fraulein" supposedly demanded to know, take note, the address of his hotel. He explained that he knew the hotel name and the city but not the street address.

The exasperated "Fraulein" then "from the goodness of her heart," gave him five minutes to look up the street address.

Cell phones are surrendered to embassy security and one has to leave the building to make a call. With his five-minute deadline almost over (remember he had to retrieve his phone and wait for the lift) he made a frantic call to his office.

Because his officemates still had to surf the net for the hotel address and he then had to take the lift back to the embassy floor and surrender his phone to security... the young lad bade "auf wiedersen" to his five-minute deadline.

* * *

The 22nd floor of Pan Pacific Singapore is an exclusive Executive Centre (business center) for guests' comprehensive business needs. A dedicated Executive Concierge is on site to provide an orientation of the services and facilities, featuring skilled secretarial and butler services rolled into one.

The Executive Centre features three working rooms complete with computers, printers and two work station desks; two conversation rooms for six to eight guests; three boardrooms for up to 14 guests; and two larger meeting rooms for up to 16 guests, based on classroom settings.

The well-appointed meeting rooms have "Aeron" chairs by Herman Miller, considered by many to be the best task chair in the world and , offer views of the Singapore skyline.

Aside from being completely wireless, there are technologically advanced audio and visual equipment. There are two business lounges, located on the same level, which seat up to 60 guests comfortably. Breakfast, all-day beverages and selected cocktails at special prices are available.

* * *

Asia Pacific's leading luxury hotel group, Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts recently signed a 30-year lease agreement for the Shangri-La Hotel at London Bridge Tower. The Shangri-La Hotel at London Bridge, the first European hotel for Shangri-La, which opens late 2009, is the first new-build five-star hotel in the Central London area in over a decade.

The deluxe, 195-room Shangri-La, accessed by a dedicated entrance at street level, will occupy floors 34 to 52 (18 floors total) of the "Shard of Glass," as London Bridge Tower has become known. The 70-story building will include shops, offices, restaurants, residential accommodation and public viewing galleries offering sweeping views of the capital.

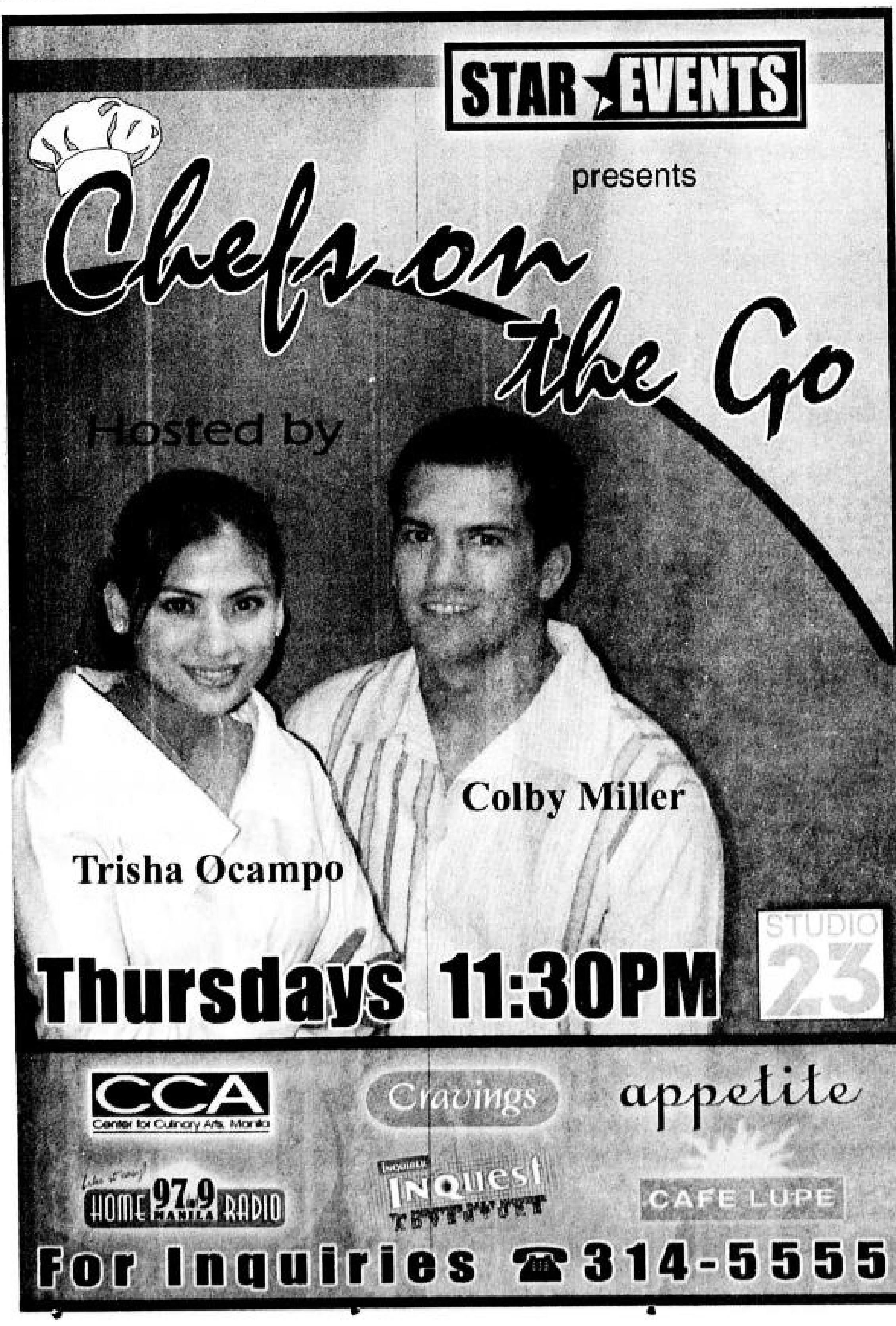
* * *

One of the world's largest and best-known hotel brands, Mercure, will launch in Surabaya, Indonesia with the opening of the Mercure Surabaya in June 2006.

The former Mirama Hotel will be re-branded Mercure Surabaya will go through an extensive multimillion dollar renovation of its 110 guestrooms, lobby and all public areas. The modern interior design with an elegant Asian touch will complement the 30-year old hotel's unique history.

The hotel is strategically situated in the city's main business district, of Jalan Raya Darmo, and surrounded by major commercial developments.

For feedback or business travel info you may want to share, please email sdg1402@yahoo.com



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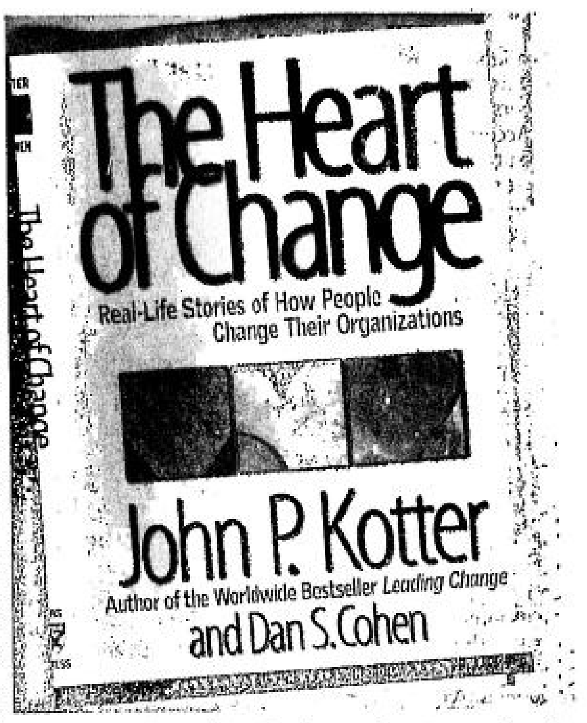
Tap the power of emotion to drive corporate change

"The Heart of Change"
By John P. Kotter
Harvard Business School Press, 2002

By Dante M. Velasco
Contributor



The Heart of Change
Real-Life Stories of How People Change Their Organizations
John P. Kotter
Author of the Worldwide Bestseller Leading Change
and Dan S. Cohen

THE MYTH that denizens in the corporate world are rational—or cerebral—has long been shattered. But, the way our corporate leaders manage organizations and people betray their hard-to-break habit of going into long-winded analysis, dishing out cold facts and colder figures.

Thus, they succeed more in boring their peers and subordinates rather than in igniting their enthusiasm for goals to be achieved or, at the very least, for the job at hand.

But times have changed—or have they? Has the bastion of cerebral managers been demolished by the decisive march of "resonant" leaders. A landmark book titled "Primal Leadership" by Daniel Goleman (who also authored an earlier work "Emotional Intelligence") prompted renewed interest in the power of emotions to move and lead people.

EXECUTIVE READ

And yet resonant leadership was— and is—demonstrated by leaders in times past and presentf—rom Moses to Mandela, from Martin Luther to Martin Luther King, from George Washington to Winston Churchill, from Simon Bolivar to Tony Blair, from CEOs Jack Welch to Bill Gates.

It is thus appropriately not a discovery, but a rediscovery, of a type of leadership that "connects" to the hearts of people. Someone said a leader is allowed to fail in many things, but never must he fail to "inspire."

'Resonant leadership'

The more recent beneficiary of this return to "resonant leadership"—one that inspires people (as opposed to "toxic" leadership)—is the science of managing and effecting change in corporations. A book, titled "The Heart of Change," addresses issues and narrates real-life stories about change campaigns that worked in large enterprises simply because they decided that "the heart of change is in the emotions."

Kotter, the author, is categorical about the message of his latest book: "People change ... because they are shown a truth that influences their feelings." Kotter bats for shocking, or grabbing the attention of, people so that, first, they "sit up and listen," and then are suitably empowered to embrace and initiate change.

This is an engaging and useful book, since it lives up to the promise of its sub-title which runs, "Real-Life Stories of How People Change Their Organizations."

The narratives revolved on the Eight Steps for Successful Large-Scale Change. The steps are as follows: Increase Urgency, Build the Guiding Team, Get the Vision Right, Communicate for Buy-in, Empower Action, Create Short-Term Wins, Don't Let Up, and Make Change Stick. Kotter calls these steps "a flow in a successful change effort."

Every point made by the author on the Eight Steps was illustrated by a number stories written by real people—some named, some not.

In the first step, "Increasing Urgency," the book tells of a story titled "The Videotape of an Angry Customer." It's the story of a customer suitably frustrated by the seeming lack of listening skills of the front liners of a company. The narrator, presumably a top manager, decided to video tape the "angry customer." He did not use the usual memo or speech extolling the virtues of customer relations, but showed the video tape to the firm's managers and employees who got the complaint in the raw. Result: Most agree that they must do something about it.

Another success story, this time dealing with the refusal of people to change a work process, is about building an aircraft. A guy called Koz (author failed or decided not to give him a title) wanted to change the way an aircraft is assembled in many locations—resulting in ineffective quality control, delay in delivery of parts and high costs. In a management meeting, he announced: "We are not going to move an airplane until it is complete in its position... Until the plane is done and done right, no movement. Period."

Kotter's immediate commentary: "Everyone thought Koz was off his rocker." But since Koz cannot be moved to abandon his decision, people followed his orders. As a result, quality has gone up and all aircraft have not only been on time, "they've been early." Until today, says the book, the "story is still being told."

Commentaries

Stories abound in this book. The tale of "Gloves in the Boardroom," where 424 types of gloves were displayed at the large expensive table, delivered the urgent message to change a policy among division presidents of a conglomerate. There is a story of a courageous CEO who refused to hang his portrait alongside portraits of former CEOs of a company since 1885. He did even more to shock the old timers: He removed the other portraits and, in their place, showed pictures of customers' stores.

What the book is saying in stories and commentaries is that people respond to the need for change if they are confronted the truth - in a compelling or shocking way. That's driving change through the gut.

And when you succeed in introducing change, improve processes dramatically, and evolve a completely new culture - how do you make sure the resulting changed culture stay as such. The book offers stories to illustrate the ever-present risk for people to revert to "good old tradition". The tale, "The Boss Went to Switzerland," is so familiar it could happen to a CEO who was successful in his role as "change leader," only to come back after a three-year absence that the people went back —if I may say so—to worshipping the Baal of bureaucratic fat and smugness.

The CEO shares a key learning: "It's got to be driven in deeper." *(Feedback at executiveread@creativepoint.ph)*

He could have been boss...

From page B1

"For the customer, I want to make the bank more customer focused. On people, I want to enable and train more people to do more things themselves. For the owner, to improve the financial performance," he says.

For Montinola, financial performance means bringing up the shareholders' return on equity to 15 percent, from 12 percent, and improving the cost to income ratio to 50 percent, from 53 percent.

He believes the bank has the raw materials needed to turn these visions into reality.

"Integrity, excellence, professionalism, meritocracy, transparency and teamwork are our key strengths. High moral values are of utmost importance. You can teach skills in the workplace, but you either have moral values or you don't. Fortunately, we have a lot of people in the organization who embody these ideals, and we exalt them above the rest," Montinola adds.

Striking a balance

Achieving his lofty goals will mean squeezing more items into his already packed schedule.

But Montinola is not one to work himself to the bone at the expense of his family.

As his parents always told him, always have time for the family.

Striking a balance is key, to effectively juggle his roles as president of BPI and BPI Foundation, husband to Ging, father of three, and a member of the board of some family-owned firms.

"I strongly believe in balance. So I work a full day, but I try not to take any work home and I also try to keep the weekends free," he says.

"My best day is Saturday. It is my unstructured day. I heard someone say, and I remembered it, that the greatest luxury is basically unplanned time. So, I just wake up on a Saturday and decide what I want to do. It could be anything like sports, going out of town, watching a movie and just being with the family," he adds.

But weekends spent on the different activities of BPI Foundation are always a welcome treat.

"The most satisfying aspect of my job as president of BPI Foundation is the feeling that I am contributing something to lift the country up. This year, we are focusing on "Pondo ng Pinoy," which aims to persuade people to save and "Show Me, Teach Me, SME," a program that encourages and assists small and medium-scale enterprises. We have also launched Expat Pinoy, which simplifies remittance of OFWs to their families," he says.

His BPI family provides him unwavering support in his endeavors, and he always credits that sense of belonging in the bank for much of the institution's success.

"BPI is a group of professionals, so you get different viewpoints at different points in time. But the creative tension of the ideas, we think, helps produce good results," Montinola says.

And Montinola is dead set on keeping those good to excellent results coming under his watch.

Bancassurance pluses cited

PHILIPPINE AXA Life has again proven its industry leadership in the life insurance business as its bancassurance operation was recognized as the country's model among the market players in the industry.

In a recent conference held in Bangkok, Thailand, Phil AXA president and CEO Victor P. Quisumbing harped on the company's model version of a bancassurance structure.

According to Quisumbing, Phil AXA's bancassurance or allfinanz as what is referred to in Germany is a structure that allows the distribution of a combination of insurance and banking products and services through a common distribution channel tapping into a singular client base within the bank. At Philippine AXA Life it is an accessible and personalized financial planning service that is reputed for its unique system of distribution, utilizing professionally trained financial executives (FEs) providing expert advice on a complete range of banking, insurance and investment-related products.

Quisumbing also emphasized that aside from its strong distribution sales force combined with top management's full commitment, key elements vital to the growth of the company, Philippine AXA Life's success hinges on its joint venture relationship with the No. 1 bank in the Philippines. Philippine AXA Life is joint venture between Metrobank and the Global AXA Group.

"Our formidable partnership with Metrobank has proven to be very rewarding for the company in terms of product innovation and gaining competitive edge in the market. Through our BankAssure channel, we are able to cater to both financial protection and wealth management needs of Metrobank clients," Quisumbing noted.

With this spurred and unprecedented growth, Quisumbing also shared his company's vision of "becoming a leading and trusted world-class provider and concept owner of personal financial planning in the country."

Since its initial operations in Manila in June 2000, BankAssure's phenomenal growth—from the initial 60 branches that offered the financial planning service—the current number of branches now total to 540 all over the country. These expansion programs are envisioned to reach out to more Filipino clients and to fulfill Phil AXA Life's vision of offering its BankAssure service in all Metrobank branches.

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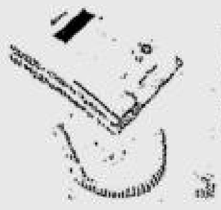

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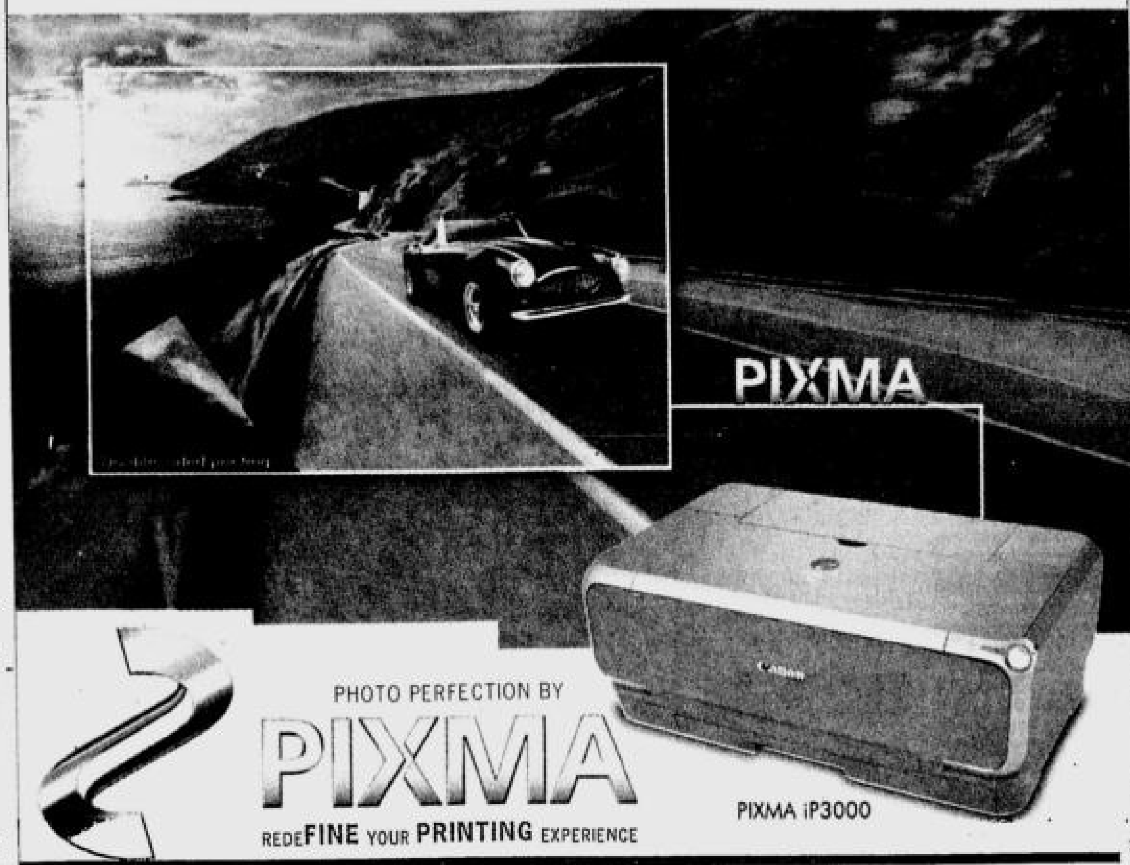

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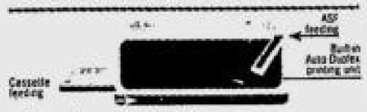

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Lot 21-Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 10,000sqm, FA 176sqm
Lot12-A Brgy. Poblacion, San Antonio, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price P 3,638,800.00

Lot 22 – Res'l. Lot LA 3,605 sqm
Lot13-B Brgy. Poblacion, San Antonio,Alicia
Minimum Bid Price P 324,450.00

Lot 23 - Res'l. Lot LA 1,000sqm
Lot45-E Brgy. Apanay, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price P 650,000.00

Lot 24-Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/imprvmnt
LA 2,899sqm, FA 545.70sqm
Quirino cor Maharlika Highway, San Antonio, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price P 4,348,500.00

Lot 25 - Res'l. Lot LA 9,029 sqm
Brgy. Mabini, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price P 1,625,220.00

Lot 26 -Res'l. Lot LA 159 sqm
Cortez St, Barrio District II, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 675,750.00

Lot 27 – Res'l. Lot LA 9,742 sqm
LotB-1 Brgy. Rd,Brgy. Nungnungan I, Cauayan
Minimum Bid Price P 636,038.00

Lot 28 - Res'l. Lot LA 357 sqm
Brgy. San Fermin, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 357,000.00

Lot 29–Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/imprvmnt
LA 2,503sqm, FA 750sqm
L15 Blk2 & L15-20 Blk3 (Formerly Queen of the Valley Gen. Hospital) MaharlikaHighway,Tagaran,Cauayan
Minimum Bid Price P 4,089,750.00

Lot 30 – Res'l. Lots LA 2,233 sqm
Brgy. Road, Alicaocao, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,898,050.00

Lot 31 – Res'l. Lot LA 630 sqm
Brgy. San Fermin, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 504,000.00

Lot 32 – Agri. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 10,000sqm, FA 960sqm
Lot2-A Tagaran, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 750,000.00

Lot 33–Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/imprvmnt
LA 5,000sqm, FA 150sqm
LotA-2 Maharlika Highway, Tagaran, Cauayan City (near GSIS Bldg.)
Minimum Bid Price P 3,704,583.00

Lot 34 – Res'l. Lots LA 733 sqm
Lots4-O&N Brgy. Paraiso, Cabaruan, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 435,880.00

Res'l. Lot, Maharlika Homes Subd., Cauayan City
Lot 35 – L14 Blk7 LA 300 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 660,000.00
Lot 36 – L20 Blk5 LA 300 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 675,000.00

Lot 37 - Res'l. Lot LA 924 sqm
Lot10027-C-3-B Brgy. Tagaran, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 470,900.00

Lot 38 – Res'l. Lot LA 924 sqm
Lot10027-C-3-C-1 Brgy. Tagaran, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 415,800.00

Lot 39 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 745sqm, FA 350sqm
Lot2-C Municipal Rd, Brgy. San Fermin, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 2,952,050.00

ISABELA

Lot 40-Res'l/Comm'l Lot LA6,557sqm
Maharlika Highway, Brgy. Prenza, Cauayan City (across Km. Post 366)
Minimum Bid Price P 7,081,560.00

Lot 41– Res'l. Lots LA 5,000 sqm
Lot3562-E-2-B to F Barrio rd, La Paz, Cabatuan
Minimum Bid Price P 1,125,000.00

Lot 42 - Res'l/Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 313 sqm, FA 72sqm
Municipal Road, Poblacion, San Mateo
Minimum Bid Price P 2,347,500.00

Lot 43 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 625 sqm LotA-1-C Bonifacio St, Dist.3, San Manuel
Minimum Bid Price P 281,250.00

Lot 44 - Res'l. Lot LA 901 sqm
Lot1322 Rizal cor Salaguinto Sts, Brgy. Dist.2, San Manuel
Minimum Bid Price P 495,550.00

Lot 45 - Res'l. Lot LA 765 sqm
Lot1173 Mabini St. Purok 4, Dist.2, Callang Res'l. Site, Poblacion San Manuel (across Calayag PoultrySupply)
Minimum Bid Price P 325,125.00

Lot 46–Res'l/Comm'l. Lot LA 689sqm
Lot7675 cor Bantug Ave. & Gen. Luna St, Bantug, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 2,204,800.00

Lot 47 - Res'l. Lot LA 416 sqm
L7 Blk1 Rd. lot1, RubySubd.Vira,Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 582,400.00

Lot 48 – Res'l. Lot LA 240 sqm
L5 Blk2 National Rd., Brgy. Vira, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 240,000.00

Lot 49 – Res'l. Lot LA 399sqm
Lot4778-F-4-A-4-C, Brgy. Rizal, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 478,800.00

Lot 50 - Res'l. Lot LA 250 sqm
Lot7852-B-1 Claro M. Recto St, Brgy. Rizal, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 1,000,000.00

Lot 51 – Res'l. Lot LA 350 sqm
Lot8-A Brgy. Magsaysay, Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 148,750.00

Lot 52 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 510 sqm, FA 162.50 sqm
Lot4543-C-1 National Rd., Brgy. Magsaysay, Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 714,000.00

Lot 53 – Res'l. Lot LA 6,763sqm
Provincial Rd, Brgy. Magsaysay, Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 2,011,950.00

Lot 54 – Res'l. Lot LA 2,800 sqm
Lot4316-G Brgy. Magsaysay, Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 1,190,000.00

Lot 55 - Res'l. Lot LA 272 sqm
Lot3402 Libertad St. QuezonDist.Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 204,000.00

Lot 56 - Res'l. Lot LA 257 sqm
Lot3476 Libertad St, Quezon Dist, Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 192,750.00

Lot 57 - Res'l. Lots LA 2,662
L4259-A&C Maharlika Highway, Magsaysay, Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 1,969,880.00

Lot 58 – Orchard w/ Poultry Houses
LA 106,841sqm, FA 955sqm
Lot10516-B-2 & Lot4447-E Brgy. Magsaysay, Naguilian
Minimum Bid Price P 6,485,500.00

Lot 59 - Comm'l. Lots w/ Imprvmnt
LA7,415sqm, FA187sqm Lot2-C-8-2&3 Maharlika Highway, Alibagu, Ilagan
Minimum Bid Price P 5,951,887.00

ISABELA

Lot 60 – Res'l. Lot LA 3,871 sqm
Brgy Alibagu, Ilagan (In front of Prov Capitol)
Minimum Bid Price P 6,580,700.00

LA UNION

Lot 61– Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 197 sqm, FA 150 sqm
Brgy. Madayegdeg, San Fernando
Minimum Bid Price P 771,194.00

PANGASINAN

Lot 62 – Res'l. Lots LA 500 sqm
L14&15 Blk8 Nana St, Carmay Subd, Carmay East, Rosales
Minimum Bid Price P 425,000.00

Lot 63 – Res'l. Twnhse
LA 251 sqm, FA 300sqm
16241-E Brgy. Rd, Nalsian, Calasiao
Minimum Bid Price P 2,267,421.00

Lot 64 - Res'l. Lot
LA 2,071 sqm
#4 Mamaradlo St, Poblacion West, Calasiao
Minimum Bid Price P 4,659,750.00

Lot 65 - Res'l. Lot LA 228 sqm
Lot688-F Callejon St, Pogo Chico, Dagupan City
Minimum Bid Price P 291,840.00

Lot 66 - Res'l. Lot LA 219 sqm
Lot688-K Callejon St, Pogo Chico, Dagupan City
Minimum Bid Price P 279,040.00

Lot 67 - Res'l. Lot LA 392 sqm
M.H. del Pilar St. Mayombo Dist, Dagupan City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,332,800.00

Lot 68 - Res'l. Lot LA 194 sqm
L1 Nel-Ars Subd Tapuac Dist Dagupan City
Minimum Bid Price P 814,800.00

Lot 69 - Res'l. Lot LA 315 sqm
L7 Blk111 Merry Land Subd, Navaluan, Mangaldan
Minimum Bid Price P 425,250.00

LAS PIÑAS

Res'l. Twnhse, Royal South Townhomes, Brgy. Talon Singko (Back of SM Southmall)
Lot 70 – L67 Blk9; LA 94sqm, FA 92sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,297,200.00
Lot 71 – L77 Blk9; LA 89sqm, FA 92sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,076,900.00
Lot 72 – L73 Blk9; LA 54 sqm, FA 92sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,107,000.00

PARAÑAQUE

Res'l. Condo., Makati South Hills Arcade, East Service Rd, Bgy.Balagbag (near airport)
Lot 73 – Unit 302 FA 107.35 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,824,950.00
Lot 74 – Unit 301 FA 136.31 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 2,317,270.00
Lot 75 – Unit 307 FA 136.31 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 2,317,270.00

QUEZON CITY

Lot 76 – Res'l. Twnhse FA 230.61 sqm
Unit13 Capitol Golf Townhomes & Golfers Villas, Capitol Hills (near Ateneo/UP)
Minimum Bid Price P 3,874,248.00

Lot 77 – Res'L. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 230.30sqm, FA 139sqm
#16 Lot17 Pajo St, Quirino 2-A/Quirino Dist., Proj. 2
Minimum Bid Price P 2,074,170.00

Lot 78 – Res'L. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 230.40sqm, FA 86sqm
#18 Lot19 Pajo St, Quirino 2-A/Quirino Dist., Proj. 2
Minimum Bid Price P 2,074,170.00

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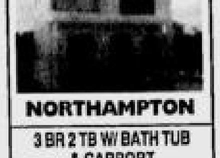

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218m^2 @7.9M Neg. 844-5206

2Stry w/4 Door Aprt LA-122m^2 Nr D Fort P2.7M Neg Tel. 7791642 •09194567849 Norma

BANGKAL 7.2M Ruben 4566647

MANILA

SAN ANDRES MANILA Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.492M up 8903461 loc 34

MARIKINA

Single U&D Twnhse New RFO 1.7-2.6M 4BR 2-3TB Com'l / Resd'l Loan ok Parang / Concep'n / Mkna Hgts 9422154

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HOUSE & LOT

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FAIRVIEW HL LA170 FA80 2.7M Call 2728202

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SAN JUAN

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JOSEFA Dr LA308 FA200 2sty 11.8M Call 696-4815

HOUSE & LOT

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HOUSE & LOT

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METROVILLE SUBD LA 122m^2 2bdrms 1T&B FA61.28m^2 P1.2M Vic 8903461 loc 27

MILAN CAMELLA HOMES 3Stry FA210m^2 LA78m^2 P1.7M VIC 8903461 LOC 27/25

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LOT

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LAS PINAS

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MAKATI

NR MAKATI COLIS'M 254@ 20T /SQM CALL ROMY/LIZA 8441989 09196878355

MANILA

67 sq m apt, 2 storey nr DLSU and CSB 0920 9603724 - Cory

MUNTINLUPA

P350,000 55m^2 0927-4285945

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA 333m^2 P4,054/m^2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

QUEZON CITY

CAPITOL PARK T-9389719

Lot 4 Blk4 Washington St. Vista Real Classica 09178908738

RESIDENTIAL nr UP Ateneo 204m^2 lo 816m^2 P8,500/m^2 09189235216

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OTHER PROVINCIAL

TGYTAY ALONG 582 8725750

TGYTAY S'RIDGE P5K/ 8725750

BATANGAS

RANCHO VISTA SUBD LA613m2 P2,284/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P165/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CAVITE

DON BOSCO EXEC HTS LA128m2 P2,900/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

Orchard 300m² 724-8665

PARKPLACE SUBD LA149.30m² P6,028/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE SUBD LA120m² P5,750/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

RUSHIII L - 1,135 Sqm Allonso, Cavite near Tagaytay P1.1M (Neg) T 7232935 - Linda

ST. CHARBEL DASMA nr SM 371m² P2,650/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

VERDANA BCR 2ADJ. @ 208SQ 11T NEG 8279039/09192035932

LAGUNA

P584,000 108m² 0927-4285945

SOUTH PEAK P5,000/m2 LA240m2 Vic 8903461 loc 25/27

MEMORIAL LOT

Mla. Meml Dasma 724-8665

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SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P165/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

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MAKATI

MGALLNES VIL 09273853649

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HOUSE

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QUEZON CITY

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CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

2br Fur Cntr Pkg 8447524

4Rent Penthse Dela Rosa 0917-8860440

CITILND8 1BR P9K 5623531

COLONADE 2-3BR 50K 8439600 BSA SUITE 25K 09273853649

CTL8 Furn 1BR P14T 9299835

MKT 2BR 1TB 60m² P13.5 STUDIO 35m² P8.8 PRKG/NODUE 8906374

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that ALFONSO G. ANDAYA died on Dec. 4, 2004 in Toronto Canada. His retirement & monetary benefits were adjudicated to his widow Perla Torres Andaya by virtue of quitclaims executed by their children per Doc. Nos. 1588-05 & 1590-05; Service Nos. 3347 & 3348; Series of 2005 Philippine Consulate General in Toronto, Canada. (PDI-April 3, 10 & 17, 2005)

NOTICE OF LOSS

PCI Leasing & Finance Certificate No. 16211-101,250 Shares; Certificate No. 15957-300,000 Shares under the name of VIRGINIA CHUA were declared lost. If no contest is received within 1 year new certificates will be issued. (PDI-March 27, April 3 & 10, 2005)

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SECRETARY
- Female/Single not more than 30 years old
- Preferably graduate of any 4 year course
- Computer Literate
- Good communication skills/Pleasing Personality

Interested parties may call Miles for appointment at Tel. Nos.: 8239167/ 8238911/8238070/8245174

URGENT
Executive Secretary & Administrative Assistant
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* Apply only if graduates of Ateneo, de La salle, UP, UST and UA&P.

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WORKMEN unload 122,500 bags of rice imported by the National Food Authority from Vietnam via MV My An at the Subic Free Port, Zambales. Out of the said volume, 72,000 bags are allocated for Region III while the remaining 50,000 bags will be distributed in Region II. The rice will form part of the agency's food security stocks to be used during the lean months and in times of typhoons and other emergencies.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Kaisampalad Inc. (Phil. Council for Food Security & Fair Trade) is an established non-government organization that promotes and supports policies, projects and programs for food security and fair trade is in need of an:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With the following qualifications:

- At least 5 years working experience, 3 years at least with NGOs
- Work experience in micro-finance, livelihood, project development, financial analysis, feasibility study, pre-funding evaluation, project monitoring and evaluation
- Graduate of economics, social/community development course, agriculture, environment and natural resource management or enterprise development. Masters degree is a plus.
- Able to travel extensively in rural areas and can relate well with the poor rural populace
- Computer literate especially in word processing, spreadsheet and simple database program
- Must have good supervisory, communication, advocacy and report writing skills
- Must have administrative/management experience

Interested parties may send their application letter & resume (with at least 3 reference persons) not later than 25 April 2005. Please attach a recent 2x2 picture in your application letter. You may send your application to:

KAISAMPALAD INC.
Unit 204 Eagle Court Condominium
26 Matalino Street, Brgy. Council, Quezon City
Only shortlisted candidates will be notified

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Meralco Avenue, DepED Complex, Pasig City

Invitation to Submit Expressions of Interest

(Beneficiary Assessment of Participation)

The Philippine Government has received a loan from the World Bank towards the implementation of the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP), a project of the Department of Education. The Government intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above-mentioned loan, together with GOP counterpart, to payments to a service provider to determine the degree of participation of local communities and stakeholders in the implementation of various project components and to measure the level of stakeholder satisfaction with their participation which is essentially a survey.

The Central Project Implementation Support Unit (CPISU) now invites service providers to submit expressions of interest containing information on the following: (a) range of relevant services offered, (b) qualification and experience of relevant professional and technical personnel currently maintained, (c) track record and experience of the firm in similar assignment including list of major clients served or being served, and (d) firm's financial resources.

On the basis of the above information, service providers will be short-listed who will be invited to submit technical and financial proposals to provide the required services. Expressions of Interest may be sent to the following address:

Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat
5th floor, Mabini Bldg.,
Department of Education
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Metro Manila

Expressions of Interest and the required information should be received at the above-cited address no later than the close of business day of **April 29, 2005.**

(SGD.) **JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ**
Undersecretary and
BAC Chairman

(PDI - April 10 & 17, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Public is hereby advised of unscrupulous persons posing as **Foodsphere, Inc. (CDO)** sales personnel at some instances using the following names, **Arnold Dela Paz, Marick Pineda, Macky Delos Reyes, Ken Medina, Ronald Lim, Roberto Cajudo, Rogelio Morales, Richard Sunico, Odie Sy,** in order to demand cash/reservation fee/deposits in exchange for products, hotdog griddle and freezer support, etc. targeting sari-sari stores, wet markets stalls, household member.

The company has no selling program requiring deposits down payments nor reservation fees. Please transact directly with authorized dealers and salesman only. Persons caught misrepresenting the company shall be dealt with to the fullest extent of the law. For more inquiries or any information on the above subject. **Please call (02) 2941111 loc. 237 (Customer Service)**

The Management
FOODSPHERE, INC. (CDO)
Makers of processed and canned meats
Under CDO and Holiday brands

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON GOOD GOVERNMENT
Region VIII
Tacloban City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), Region VIII, invites interested parties to participate in the sealed bidding for the lease of the **ground floor of the People's Center and Library located at Real Street, Tacloban City as venue for "SUMMER BAZAAR" trade exhibit from May 15, 2005 to July 15, 2005.**

The bidding guidelines will be available at PCGG Office, Asset Management Department, 3rd Floor, IRC Building, 82 EDSA Mandaluyong City and at the PCGG Regional Office, Nipa Hut Jones Street, Tacloban City, **starting April 11, 2005.** For inquiries, please contact **Mr. Alfredo M. dela Paz at Telephone Nos. 726-0034 and 725-6958 and Mr. Renor O. Dauag at Telephone No. (053) 321-3413.**

Pre-qualification requirements should be submitted on or before **April 18, 2005**, while bids will be received, opened and tabulated at **10:00 A.M. on April 21, 2005** in the presence of the bidders at the PCGG Office, Asset Management Department, 3rd Floor, IRC Building, 82 EDSA, Mandaluyong City.

(Sgd.) **RENOR O. DAUAG**
Officer-in-Charge
PCGG, Region VIII
Tacloban City

(PDI–April 9, 10 & 11, 2005)

Lenox Hotel

A young and fast-growing hotel in Dagupan City is looking for qualified applicants to fill the position of:

HEAD CHEF

- 30 to 45 years old, college graduate
- willing to be based in Dagupan City
- with at least five years experience in a hotel as a Sous Chef or Chef D'Partie
- Specializes in Western & European Cuisine
- knowledgeable in menu costing & menu planning for both restaurant outlets & banquets
- Should be of good moral character
- has a positive disposition and a desire to share his skills & knowledge
- Should have leadership qualities

For interested applicants, please send your resumé with 2x2 picture to Lenox Hotel,, Rizal St., Dagupan City, email at lenoxhotel@pldtdsl.net or call 0755157093 to 96, 0917-5080748 on or before April 25, 2005. Ask for Ms. Ma-Ann.

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION

March 16, 2005

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMFC) invites all qualified security agencies to pre-qualify and bid for the security requirements at the NHMFC Head Office, NHMFC Taguig Warehouse, Cebu City, Cagayan de Oro City and La Union Regional Offices, and Imus, Sta. Rosa, Isabela and Bacolod Satellite Offices with a total of Thirty-four (34) security guards.

Interested parties may secure pre-qualification information sheet starting April 13 to 15, 2005 from the Office of the Manager, Physical Resources Department at the 7th Floor, Filomena Bldg. III, 104 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City. A pre-bidding conference will be held at the NHMFC Multi-Purpose Hall on June 07, 2005, by which actual submission and opening of bids shall be announced. Only pre-qualified security agencies will be allowed to attend the pre-bid conference. Failure to attend the pre-bidding conference will be a ground for disqualification to participate in the bidding.

All proposals must be accompanied by a bidder's bond equivalent to 5% of the total bid price but not exceeding P10,000.00 in the form of cash, manager's check payable to NHMFC or GSIS bid bond.

NHMFC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality/deficiency therein or to accept such bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Corporation.

For further information/clarification on the above matters, please contact Office of the Manager, Physical Resources Department, Telephone No. 817-6021 and 893-1501, local 378.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. DANIEL Q. LACUATA**
Vice President, Administrative Group

(PDI--April 10, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Meralco Avenue, DepEd Complex, Pasig City

Invitation to Submit Expressions of Interest

(Evaluation of the School-Based Management (SBM) Model in Elementary Schools)

The Philippine Government has received a loan from the World Bank towards the implementation of the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP), a project of the Department of Education. The Government intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above-mentioned loan, together with GOP counterpart, to payments to a service provider to conduct an evaluation of the School-Based Management (SBM) model now being implemented under TEEP in elementary schools.

The Central Project Implementation Support Unit (CPISU) now invites service providers to submit expressions of interest containing information on the following: (a) range of relevant services offered, (b) qualification and experience of relevant professional and technical personnel currently maintained, (c) track record and experience of the firm in similar assignment including list of major clients served or being served, and (d) firm's financial resources.

On the basis of the above information, service providers will be short-listed who will be invited to submit technical and financial proposals to provide the required services. Expressions of Interest may be sent to the following address:

Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat
5th floor, Mabini Bldg.,
Department of Education
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Metro Manila

Expressions of Interest and the required information should be received at the above-cited address no later than the close of business day of **April 29, 2005.**

(Sgd.) **JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ**
Undersecretary and
BAC Chairman

(PDI - April 10 & 17, 2005)

Seminar workshop in solving listeria problem in ready-to-eat foods

THE FOOD Development Center of the National Food Authority is offering a seminar workshop for plant managers and supervisors, sanitation staff, microbiologists, laboratory technologists, meat and dairy inspectors and food safety regulators to solve the problem of listeria, a food borne bacteria, to be held on May 4 to 6 at the FDC Compound, FTI Complex, Taguig City. Listeri contamination has been the main reason for product recalls particularly with ready-to-eat foods in many advanced countries. The pathogen has the ability to produce readily biofilms on food contact surfaces but are not easily recognizable, thus posing major challenges to plant supervisors and sanitarians in processing plants. Seminar fee is P5,600 per participant inclusive of a seminar manual, lunches, snacks and a shuttle bus service from Ayala Center in Makati City to FDC and back. Checks must be made payable to the FDC-NFA. Participants may opt to stay at the FDC Dormitory with air-conditioned rooms that can accommodate 2 persons per room. Adjoining rooms share a toilet and bath with hot shower. Room charge is P790 per room per day for double occupancy and P600 per room per day for single occupancy.

For more details, please call the NFA-FDC at telephone numbers 838-4015, 838-4561 and 838-4478 and look for Ms. Luvy Maala, or at fax numbers 838-4016 and 838-4692 or email them at infofdc@pacific.net.ph.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region VI Western Visayas
THIRD ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROJECT
DIVISION OF CAPIZ
Villareal Stadium, Roxas City

Invitation For Bids (IFB)

April 10, 2005

To All Qualified Bidders:

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the *Japan Bank for International Cooperation* towards the cost of financing the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source complies as defined in the ***Guidelines for Procurement under Japan Bank for International Cooperation Loans.***

2. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Construction of One (1) Storey DepEd Office Facilities for the Division of Capiz.

3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the Department of Education, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat with address at DepEd, Division of Capiz, Villareal Stadium, Roxas City for a non-refundable fee of Php 3,500.00 for each set from April 11 – May 10, 2005. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.

4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount of 2.5% of total bid price and shall be delivered to the **Bids and Awards Committee, DepEd, Division of Capiz, Villareal Stadium, Roxas City** on or before **10:00 AM of May 11, 2005.**

5. A pre-bid conference will be held to clarify all queries and questions, on **April 26, 2005, 10:00 A.M.** at **DepEd, Division of Capiz, Villareal Stadium, Roxas City.** Also a site visit will be conducted before the pre-bid conference.

6. The committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which may found disadvantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **IRMA M. GANELA**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
Division of Capiz

(PDI - April 10, 2005)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES, a division of the Philippine Tourism Authority invites interested contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for:

DFP 2005 SECURITY SERVICES

CONTRACTS	APPROVED BUDGET OF CONTRACT
Security Services for Area I (New Fiestamall - Store and Forward Warehouse/NAIA II)	P 13.72 M
Security Services for Area II (EHA Bldg., and NFM Perimeter/ Integrated Warehouse)	P 14.83 M
Security Services for Area III (NAIA I / Cebu Mactan/ Cebu Lahug)	P 10.33 M

The prospective Security agency should be duly licensed by PNP and have at least Five (5) years experience in providing Security Services in major retail establishments and warehouses, has deployed a minimum number of three hundred (300) licensed guards, and equipped with security devices and equipment.

The approved Budgets of the Contracts are chargeable against DFP Corporate Fund. The contract duration is for One (1) year.

Interested bidders may submit personally *their* Letter of Intent on April 12 to 14, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Issuance of the application for Eligibility shall be on the same date at the Purchasing Department, Duty Free Philippines, EHA Building, Ninoy Aquino Avenue, Paranaque City. Deadline of submission of the application for Eligibility shall be on April 19, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All applicants shall be notified on the results of the Eligibility Check.

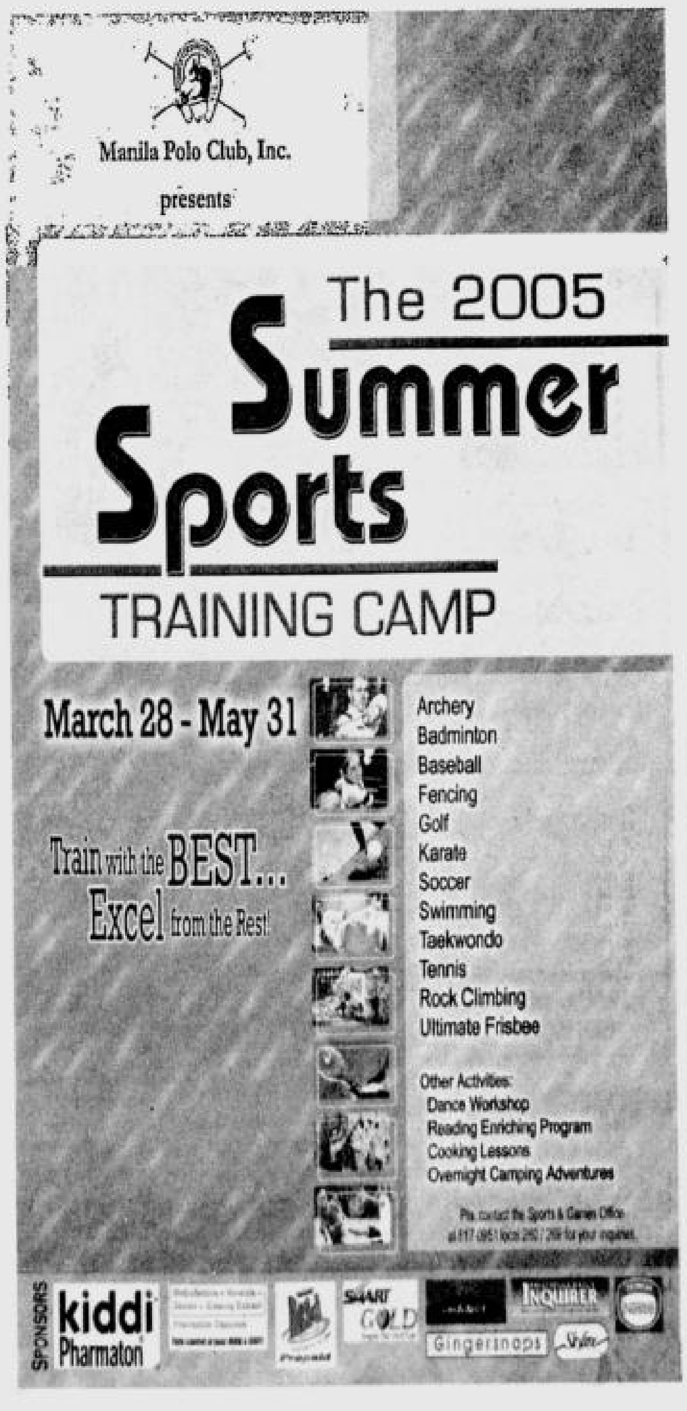
Bid documents shall be given only to those who have been found eligible on May 03, 2005 (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) upon payment of non-refundable fee of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00).

Unless otherwise indicated in the Instruction to Bidders or other bidding and contract documents, all particulars relative to the procurement and contract implementation shall be governed by R.A. 9184 and its implementing rules and regulations.

DFP reserves the right to waive any formality on the eligibility requirements and of this project. Furthermore, DFP reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd) **MA. LOURDES DORIA VELARDE**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - April 3 & 10, 2005)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Soccer
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Tennis
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Overnight Camping Adventures

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
1598 M.H. Del Pilar cor. Dr. Quintos Sts. Malate, Manila
Telephone Nos. 405-7366 & 405-7247 / 48 (direct lines)
Trunklines 522-0000 & 551-2200 locals 2374 / 2308 /7366

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals together with the 10% bid bond for the purchase on **CASH BASIS** of the Bank properties listed below will be received at the **Special Assets Department, 30th Floor, LBP Plaza, Malate, Manila** not later than **April 19, 2005 @ 10:00 A.M.** at which place, date & time, said proposals will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

In case of **CLOSELY CLUSTERED TOP BIDS** (defined as having the second highest bid which is not below 90% of the highest bid), the opening of the sealed bids will be immediately followed by an open bidding in which all bidders whose bids are not below 80% of the highest bid may participate. **The minimum increase in the open bidding should not be lower than P1,000.00.**

	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID
1.	2 parcels of commerical lot with an area of 10,156 sq.m.	Barrio Manggahan, Pasig City	133,005,000.00
2.	24 contiguous parcels of land with an area of 198,404 sq.m.	Brgy. Ligtong, Rosario, Cavite	81,867,000.00
3.	24 residential condominium units with parking slots	8 Wack Wack Road Condominium 8 Wack Wack Road, Mandaluyong City	
	7C @ 174 sq.m. PS 31&32/B4		8,319,000.00
	7F @ 174 sq.m. PS 15&16/B4		8,369,000.00
	9B @ 146 sq.m. PS 30&25/B4		7,150,000.00
	9F @ 174 sq.m. PS 55&56/B4		8,369,000.00
	10F @ 174 sq.m. PS 19&20/B4		8,369,000.00
	11F @ 174 sq.m. PS 60&61/B4		8,369,000.00
	12C @ 174 sq.m. PS 62&63/B4		8,369,000.00
	16C @ 174 sq.m. PS 74&75/B4		8,369,000.00
	16F @ 174 sq.m. PS 57&58/B4		8,369,000.00
	17C @ 174 sq.m. PS 76&77/B4		8,369,000.00
	18C @ 174 sq.m. PS 86&87/B4		8,319,000.00
	18F @ 174 sq.m. PS 21&22/B4		8,369,000.00
	26C @ 174 sq.m. PS 23&24/B4		8,630,000.00
	27C @ 174 sq.m. PS 88&89/B4		8,580,000.00
	27E @ 108 sq.m. PS 79/B4		5,260,000.00
	29D @ 108 sq.m. PS 85/B4		5,260,000.00
	30C @ 174 sq.m. PS 47&48/B4		8,630,000.00
	30D @ 108 sq.m. PS 49/B4		5,422,000.00
	31C @ 174 sq.m. PS 93&94/B4		8,841,000.00
	32C @ 174 sq.m. PS 95&51/B4		8,891,000.00
	33C @ 174 sq.m. PS 1&2/B4		8,891,000.00
	33E @ 108 sq.m. PS 3/B4		5,597,000.00
	34C @ 174 sq.m. PS 4&5/B4		8,891,000.00
	35C @ 174 sq.m. PS 11&12/B4		8,891,000.00
4.	1,454 sq.m. residential lot	Westminter Road, Town & Country Estate, Mayamot, Antipolo City	4,972,000.00
5.	432 sq.m. residential lot with 1-storey house	No. 7 Jade St., Rosapphire Subd., Banaba, San Mateo, Rizal	1,452,000.00
6.	2,019 sq.m. Parcel of land with 48 sq.m. office building	Cogon, Balingasag, Misamis Oriental	770,000.00
7.	199 sq.m. residential lot	North Ipil St., Marikina Heights, Bo. Bagumbayan, Marikina City	597,000.00
8.	65 sq.m. residential lot with 2-storey house	Brgy. Wawa, Pililla, Rizal	275,000.00
9.	10,000 sq.m. vacant lot (formerly used as bus terminal)	Maharlika Highway, Brgy. Isabang, Lucena City	14,500,000.00
10.	Noritsu QSS 1501 paper processor Noritsu QSF 430L film processor	Kodak Phils. Ltd., Chino Roces Avenue., Makati City	500,000.00

For Item No. 9-10, public bidding will be held at LBP Leasing Crop., 15th Floor, SSHG Law Center, No. 105 Paseo de Roxas St., Makati City. For inquiry & bidding forms, please contact Ms. Beth or Ms. Riza at Tel. No. 818-2200.

For the complete description of Items Nos. 1-8 including bidding forms, you may look for Ms. Tina Ilasin or Ms. Arlene Velasco at Special Assets Department (SPAD), Land Bank of the Philippines located at the 30th Floor, LBP Plaza, 1598 M.H. Del Pilar cor. Dr. Quintos Sts., Malate, Manila (near Diamond Hotel). Prospective bidders are enjoined to inspect the above listed properties before entering their bids. The sale of the properties shall be **on "AS-IS-WHERE-IS" basis.** The winning bidder/s shall take possession of the awarded properties without seeking assistance from the Bank. The award in favor of the winning bidder/s shall be subject to the approval of the LBP approving authorities.

If for any reason the above-mentioned date is declared a non-working holiday, then the public bidding shall be held on the next working day at the same time and place aforementioned.

LAND BANK RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN AND TO ACCEPT THE BID MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE LBP SHALL BE FINAL AND BINDING.

COMMITTEE ON ASSET DISPOSAL

(PDI - April 10, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LAND REFORM
Provincial Land Reform Office
San Francisco, Agusan del Sur

NOTICE OF COVERAGE AND FIELD INVESTIGATION

Pursuant to Section 7 of R.A. 6657, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, landowners, listed below with their landholdings and location are hereby notified that their landholdings are now covered under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

	LANDOWNER	LOCATION	TITLE NO.	LOT NO.	AREA	DATE OF OCULAR INSPECTION
1.	NAIDCOR	Aurora, Prosperidad	P-6686	3157, Pls-43	9.3660	05-17-2005
2.	NAIDCOR	Aurora, Prosperidad	T-4513	3138, Pls-43	8.0915	05-17-2005
3.	NAIDCOR	Aurora, Prosperidad	(P-6037) P-4349	3230, Pls-43	9.2007	05-17-2005
4.	La Purisima Agricultural Corporation	La Purisima, Prosperidad	P-9817	SWO-10-000165	616.0500	05/18-20/2005
5.	Madison Trading	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	P-6366	2184, Pls-43	15.7902	05-23-2005
6.	Madison Trading	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	T-6417	3417, Pls-43	14.3297	05-23-2005
7.	Madison Trading	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	P-6251	1161, Pls-43	8.2687	05-23-2005
8.	Madison Trading	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	P-6620	2175, Pls-43	4.8113	05-23-2005
9.	NAIDCOR	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	P-9067	1882, Pls-43	7.2306	05-24-2005
10.	NAIDCOR	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	T-2288	1899, Pls-43	7.0485	05-24-2005
11.	NAIDCOR	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	P-9900	1900, Pls-43	7.6267	05-24-2005
12.	NAIDCOR	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	P-9370	2026, Pls-43	20.2048	05-24-2005
13.	NAIDCOR	Magsaysay, Prosperidad	P-9968	1921, Pls-43	8.0642	05-25-2005
14.	NAIDCOR	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	T-4490	3068, Pls-43	7.4217	05-25-2005
15.	NAIDCOR	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	T-1593	1902, Pls-43	9.3649	05-25-2005
16.	NAIDCOR	Los Arcos, Prosperidad	P-6449	3433, Pls-43	4.2107	05-25-2005
17.	NAIDCOR	New Maug, Prosperidad	T-3320	2618, Pls-43	8.3035	05-26-2005
18.	NAIDCOR	Salimbogaon, Prosperidad	P-6581	2785, Pls-43	1.0913	05-26-2005
19.	Malvar Realty & Dev't. Corporation	Salvacion, Prosperidad	T-6445	4224, Pls-43	10.6856	05-26-2005
20.	Malvar Realty & Dev't. Corporation	Salvacion, Prosperidad	T-6446	4225, Pls-43	12.0996	05-26-2005
21.	Malvar Realty & Dev't. Corporation	Salvacion, Prosperidad	T-6443	4506, Pls-43	11.5783	05-27-2005
22	Malvar Realty & Dev't. Corporation	Salvacion, Prosperidad	T-6442	3055, Pls-43	4.9507	05-27-2005
23.	Malvar Realty & Dev't. Corporation	Salvacion, Prosperidad	T-6444	3056, Pls-43	19.5454	05-27-2005
24.	Malvar Realty & Dev't. Corporation	Salvacion, Prosperidad	T-6448	6895, Pls-43	5.8864	05-27-2005
25	Malvar Realty & Dev't. Corporation	Salvacion, Prosperidad	T-6447	3058, Pls-43	1.6775	05-27-2005
26	NAIDCOR	San Salvador, Prosperidad	P-7867	2935, Pls-43	5.0000	05-30-2005
27	NAIDCOR	Sta. Maria, Prosperidad	P-7618	3,GSS-1000	9.3002	05-31-2005
28.	NAIDCOR	Sta. Maria, Prosperidad	P-9826	135,GSS-1000	5.9417	05-31-2005
29.	NAIDCOR	Sta. Maria, Prosperidad	P-9627	134, GSS-1000	6.7099	05-31-2005
30.	NAIDCOR	Sta. Maria, Prosperidad	P-7577	138, GSS-1000	8.0000	06-01-2005
31.	NAIDCOR	Sta. Maria, Prosperidad	P-7622	174, GSS-1000	6.6893	06-01-2005
32	NAIDCOR	Sta. Maria, Prosperidad	P-7568	175, GSS-1000	9.5902	06-01-2005
33.	RB-SF (Marcelino Calpo)	Novele, Rosario	T-2625	131, Pls-67	10.0025	06-02-2005
34	RB-SF (Jose Maria Villarin)	Novele Rosario	T-4850	159-A	2.5000	06-02-2005
35	RB-SF (Remedios Nazareno)	Novele, Rosario	T-3902	124-D	1.6718	06-02-2005
36.	RB-SF (Emma Nazareno)	Novele, Rosario	T-4069	124-F	1.6718	06-02-2005
37	RB-Alegria (Antonio Nicolas)	Wasian, Rosario	T-4214	218, Pls-67	9.9783	06-03-2005
38	Ernesto Salas	Sta. Cruz, Rosario	T-3138	1366, Pls-67	7.0135	06-03-2005
39.	Ernesto Salas	Wasian, Rosario	T-2764	248, Pls-67	9.8657	06-03-2005
	TOTAL				923.1454	

In this connection, may we invite the landowners or their authorized representatives to a field investigation to be conducted on the date indicated herein. During the investigation, landholders may choose or pinpoint their retained area in accordance with Section 6 of R.A. 6657, which area should be more or less contiguous. Failure to attend said meeting or to choose retained area will mean that the office is given the discretion to identify the same.

Landowners are also advised to bring Statement of Production and Net Income on the said landholdings to be used as input in the determination of the land value.

Under Executive Order No. 405, dated 14 June 1990, we shall request the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to determine the land value of the said properties being acquired pursuant to Section 17 of R.A. 6657. As soon as we receive the Memorandum of Valuation from LBP, we shall advise the landowners of the computed land value of the properties.

(Sgd.) FE B. MERCADO
Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer II

(PDI–April 10, 17 & 24, 2005)

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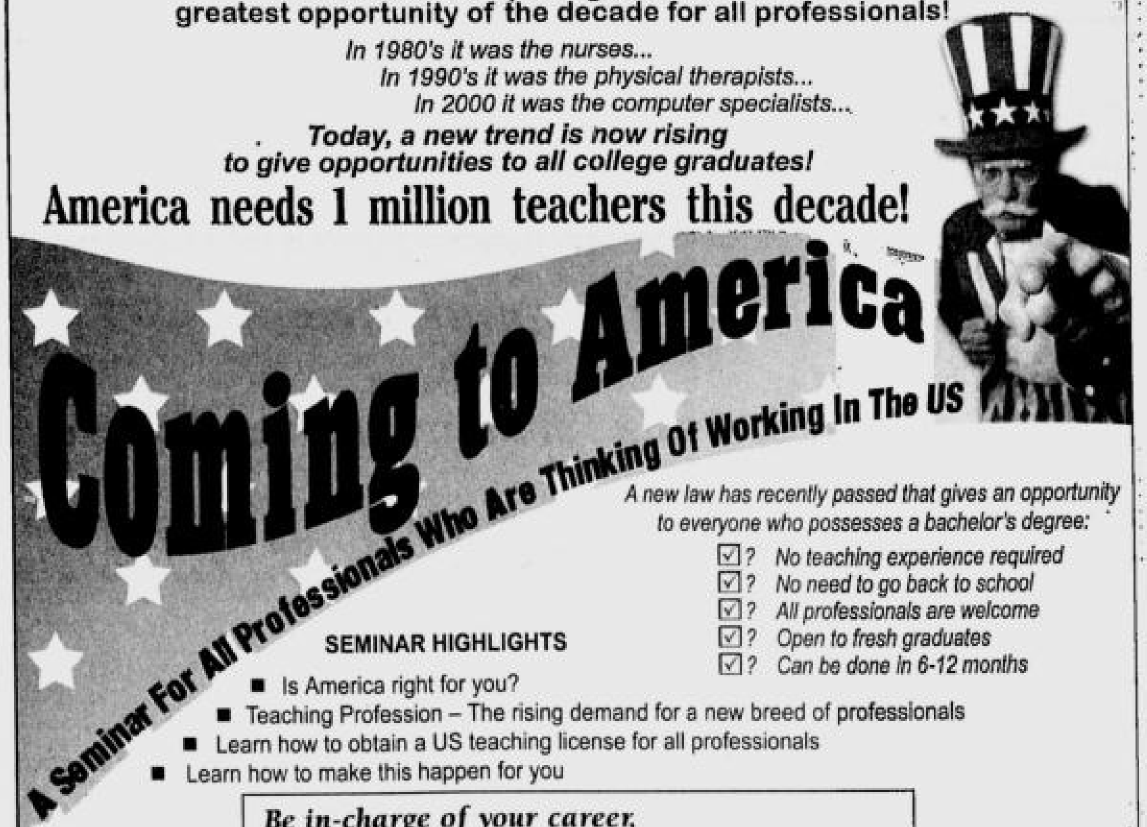
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A Seminar For All Professionals Who Are Thinking Of Working In The US

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SEMINAR HIGHLIGHTS

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- Teaching Profession – The rising demand for a new breed of professionals
- Learn how to obtain a US teaching license for all professionals
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Take your Income to a Higher Level,
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Speaker: Norman Gibbs

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5/F SM Mega Mall Building B

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Early bird rate is P495 until April 12, 2005 only!
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Rizal Street, La Paz
Iloilo City

2/F, Cabilan Building
B. Rodriguez Street
Cebu City

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT of AGRARIAN REFORM

INVITATION FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The Department of Land Reform has applied for a project preparation grant from the World Bank administered (Japan funded) Policy and Human Resource Development (PHRD) Grant Facility, and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this grant to payments under the contract for the preparation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project (CARCDP).

The Department invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing services for the preparation of the CARCDP. The said project aims to reduce poverty and enhance the quality of life of targeted agrarian reform communities (ARCs) by raising household income and improving their access to productive assets, rural infrastructure and key support services and by improving the tenurial status of landless farmers and farm workers in selected areas.

The Department would need services in the following areas, but not limited to Project Development Preparation, Rural Development Planning, Development Management and Governance, Land Tenure Specialist, Rural Infrastructure, Social Participation and Community Development, Monitoring and Evaluation, Agriculture and Agribusiness Development, Microfinance, Development Economics, Financial and Fiduciary Analysis, Environmental Assessment and Social Safeguards, LGU Financing, and Institutional Specialist.

The consulting firm will provide technical assistance in terms of detailed project preparation work on aspects related to: (1) Social assessment and situational analysis to identify issues, formulate a framework for enhanced stakeholder participation, determine development potentials of the ARCs and flesh out capacity building initiatives and intervention; (2) Formulation of project framework, scope and components considering communities driven investment priorities; (3) Conduct of technical feasibility studies and Economic Analysis; (4) Assessment of Fiduciary/Budget situation and prospects, and preparation of cost estimates, Financial Analysis, and Financing; (5) Social and environmental assessment and safeguards in the targeted areas; (6) Implementation Plan including institutional arrangements and project schedule; (7) Overall Project Analysis and Detailed feasibility studies for sample ARCs; and (8) Assistance to DLR in completing the internal and external GOP project preparation processes. The consultancy services will commence around October 2005.

Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform these services/brochure, description of similar and recent assignments experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, sample of relevant outputs, financial statements for the last 2 years, number of on-going projects, number of key staff, etc. Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

The consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by the World Bank Borrowers, May 2004, lasting for a period of no more than six (6) months.

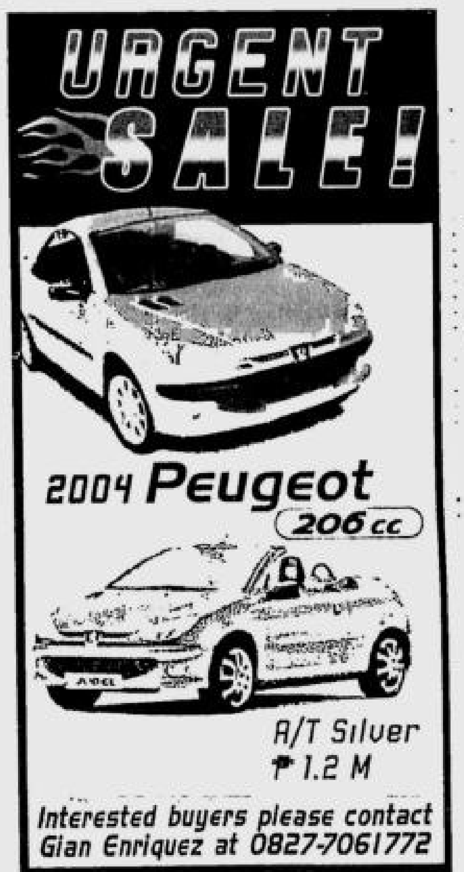
Interested consultants may obtain further information from Director Herminia Fe B. San Juan at the address below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Expression of interest must be delivered to the address below by no later than April 24, 2005.

Mr. Gerundio C. Madueño
Undersecretary, Department of Land Reform
Attention: Dir. Herminia Fe B. San Juan
Director, PDMS
1/F FAPsO Bldg., DLR Compound
Elliptical Road, Diliman
Quezon City, Philippines
Tel. (632) 4544995
Tel/Fax: (632) 9270752

(Sgd.) GERUNDIO C. MADUEÑO
Undersecretary for Support Services and FAPsO

(PDI - Apr. 10, 2005)



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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THIS IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT **MS. MYLA JOY A. REYES** OF 0822 Marauoy, Lipa City Batangas IS NO LONGER CONNECTED WITH PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES, INC. ANY TRANSACTIONS/NEGOTIATIONS MADE BY THE SAID PERSON SHALL NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES, INC.

(PDI–April 10, 2005)

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"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies; will live and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die." John 11:25-26

In Loving Memory
of the
First Death Anniversary of our Beloved

JOSE MARI "BOY" T. MENDIOLA

(January 8, 1956 – April 10, 2004)

Holy Mass will be offered today, April 10, 2005
at The Heritage Family Estates, Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina,
2:00 p.m. and at the following Churches:

Santuario de San Jose, East Greenhills	7:15 a.m.
Christ the King Parish, Greenmeadows, Q.C.	8:00 a.m.
Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, VV5, Pasig	10:00 a.m.
St. Joseph Cathedral, San Jose, Occ. Mindoro	6:30 a.m.
St. Michael the Archangel Parish, San Miguel, Bulacan	7:30 a.m.
San Vicente Chapel, San Vicente, San Miguel, Bulacan	7:00 p.m.
St. Brendan Church, San Francisco, California	7:30 a.m.

Please remember him in your prayers.

Our dearly beloved

HERMINIO C. RUBIO

of Meycauayan, Bulacan

Peacefully joined our Lord
on April 7, 2005 at the age of 71.

His wife **Rosalina**; loving children **Erlin**, **Minette** and **Eduardo**, **Susan** and **Sonny**; grandchildren **Nathan** and **Aaron**; brother, sister, in-laws and relatives request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at his residence in Saluysoy.

Interment will be on Tuesday, 12 April 2005 at Meycauayan Memorial Park after the 3:00 p.m. Holy Mass.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

Atty. Emilio (Lito) O. Angeles, Jr.

with to convey our deepest appreciation to all of you, our relatives and friends, who spent precious time with us, sent flowers, mass cards, gave donations, or in some other way expressed your love, concern and support in celebrating *Lito's* coming home to his Creator.

In Loving Memory

on the Fourth Death Anniversary of

DR. LELAND S. VILLADOLID

An expert in Internal Medicine, Thyroidology, Endocrinology and Nuclear Medicine
Undersecretary of the Department of Science and Technology (1986-1988)

Who died in the Grace of our Lord on April 11, 2001.

Holy Mass will be offered at the following Churches:

1. Marie Eugenie Chapel, Assumption Convent, San Lorenzo Village, Makati – April 11, 2005	6:15 PM
2. Sanctuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati – April 11	6:00 PM
3. Colegio de San Agustin Chapel, Dasmariñas Village, Makati – April 10	10:00 AM
– April 11	9:00 AM
4. Don Bosco Parish, San Lorenzo Village, Makati – April 11	6:30 AM
5. Sta. Maria dela Strada, La Vista, Quezon City – April 11	6:00 PM
6. St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Mother Ignacio Ave., Q.C. – April 11	7:00 AM
7. National Shrine of the Sacred Heart Parish, Dao St., Makati – April 11	7:00 AM
8. Makati Medical Center Chapel – April 11	7:30 AM
9. Church of the Nativity, Industrial Valley, Marikina – April 11	6:00 AM
10. Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Valle Verde 5, Pasig – April 10, 2005	10:00 AM

His loving wife **Ming**; loving children **Connie** and **Mulo**, **Vicky** and **Don**, **Leland Jr.** and **Marivic**, **Paul** and **Shelma**, **Katrina** and **Ito**; grandchildren **Bianca**, **Jason**, **Javi**, **Nico**, **Pocholo**, **Pascale** and **Marga**; siblings and in-laws **Lydia** and **Felix Sibal**, **Oscar** and **Alice Villadolid**, **Doy** and **Naty Villadolid**, **Purita** (†) and **Pelayo Perez**(†), **Norma** and **Celso Reinoso**; relatives and friends request you to remember him in your prayers.

"Into your hands I commend my spirit
you will redeem me, O Lord, O faithful God." **Psalm 31:6**

JUAN P. DE OCAMPO, JR.

Our beloved "baby" joined our Creator
on April 9, 2005 at the age of 25.

"JOHN JOHN" is survived by his parents **JUAN** and **VENUS**;
Brothers and Sisters-in-law : **BONG & REGINA**;
Nieces and Nephew : **Tisha, Sara & Jami**;
JOVY & TINA;
Sister : **JING JING**;
relatives and friends request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His cremated remains lie in state at the Funeraria Paz, Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 after the 8 a.m. Mass.

In Loving Memory

On the 9th Death Anniversary of

ASUNCION M. GEMPERLE

August 7, 1931 – April 11, 1996

We, her family, together with her brothers, sisters, and relatives, request the kindly reader to remember her in prayer.

Holy Mass will be offered tomorrow, April 11, 2005 at the following churches:

Santuario de San Antonio McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City	6:15 A.M. 7:30 A.M. 12:15 Noon 6:00 P.M.
St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori Parish Magallanes Village, Makati City	6:15 A.M. 7:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
St. John Bosco (Don Bosco) Parish Pasay Road, Makati City	6:30 A.M. 7:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine Doña Juana S. Rodriguez, New Manila, Quezon City	6:00 A.M. 7:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Christ The King Parish Greenmeadows, Quezon City	6:00 A.M. 7:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Santuario de San Jose Greenhills East, San Juan, M. Manila	6:15 A.M. 7:15 A.M. 6:15 P.M.
Mary The Queen Parish Greenhills West, San Juan, M. Manila	6:00 A.M. 7:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Sancta Maria Stella Orientis Chapel University of Asia and the Pacific, Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City	7:45 A.M. 12:05 Noon

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We Lovingly Remember

ANGELA TIMONER ELLA
"GELING"

On her
1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY
April 10, 2005

Holy Mass will be offered at the:

St. John the Baptist Church, Daet, Camarines Norte	8:00am; 9:00am
The Most Holy Trinity Cathedral, Daet, Camarines Norte	7:00am
Our Lady of Candelaria, Paracale, Camarines Norte	8:00am
Blessed Lorenzo Ruiz, Binondo Church	8:30am; 10:30am

Her loving children and spouses ALBERTO & ALICE, NENA & JOEY LEE, DADI & RANDY CEREZO; grandchildren and great grandson BENEDICT, ALBERT PAULO, JOANNE KRISTINE – RANDALL and KARL TIMOTHY, JULIE ANN, FRANCIS LORENZO, KATRINA MARIE, NIKO BRYAN, DARYL PETE, IVAN JUDE, JOHN ANGELO, relatives and friends request you to join them in prayer for the eternal repose of her soul.

ALICIA S. SOTTO

Retiree of United Laboratories, Inc.

Died in the Grace of our Lord
on April 7, 2005 at the age of 70.

Her body lies in state at Don Bosco Memorial Chapel, Pasay Road, Makati.

Interment to be announced later.

"I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are Yours."

John 17:9

"Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, My servant also will be."

John 12:16

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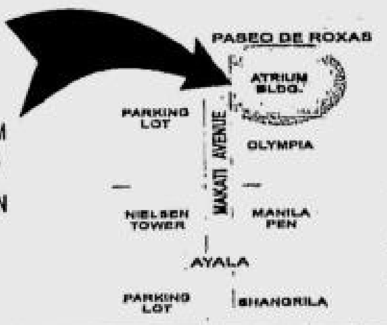

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Ama strengthens research program

"RAISING the research capabilities of faculty and students is among the top priorities of the AMA Education System (AMAES)", declared Dr. Patrick Azanza, SVP for academic affairs, during last weeks' inauguration of the AMA Research Center which houses the very impressive Festo robotics facility, a high performance computing machine, Halcon Machine Vision tool, and the AMA-Microsoft, Cisco and Avaya partnership centers.

Also launched were the AMA Research Journals in Engineering, Computer Science, Business, Medicine, and Nursing, all of which were refereed by external consultants and field experts.

Dr. Azanza said that AMA has just completed its curriculum re-engineering which transformed its course offerings into research-based academic programs envisioned to provide the students with research knowledge and skills and provide them with capabilities to conduct actual research and develop software designs prior to their graduation.

The outstanding research outputs of the AMA students and faculty are now on exhibit at the AMA Research Center along with the design and computer application projects which have been identified as potential prototypes under the AMA Technology Incubation Program.

In line with this, AMA adopted its Research Agenda which shall determine the research priorities and directions of the institution in the next five years.

This will focus on new trends in engineering, computer science, information and communications technology, business, medical, nursing and allied health which include e-learning, robotics, mechatronics, automation technology, high performance computing, artificial intelligence in medicine and nursing, as well as entrepreneurship and global business management.

Dr. Azanza declared that the implementation of AMA's Research Agenda shall be tackled during the Faculty Research Conference to be held in Makati City this month.

Incidentally, around 150 faculty members of the AMA Education System have just successfully completed the rigid research training facilitated by UP professors Joel V. Mangahas and Redina M. Victoria which included the use of statistical packages and software (SPSS) in conducting research.

AMA management has decided to allocate P50 million additional research funds in order to help build up the research capabilities of the institution. According to Dr. Azanza, "AMA is also seeking research grants from industry partners, government agencies like DOST, and other foreign institutions in order to fund very important faculty researches, especially those that are crucial to our country's economic growth."

Just recently, a group of AMA faculty members composed of professors Norman Alano, Bernard Bisuecos, Joseph Pangan and Katsuhiro Narikiyo won the Best Paper in the Fira Robot World Congress in Busan, South Korea. The research study was entitled, "Image Processing-Controlled Robotic Arm".

CHAMBER OF THRIFT BANKS HOLDS 2005 CONVENTION

The Chamber of Thrift Banks (CTB) recently held their annual convention at Dusit Hotel in Makati City with the theme 'Responding to the Challenge of National Development'. Clearly it is CTB's response to the President's call for the whole country's support in preventing the onset of a financial crisis. Bangko Sentral Assistant Governor Nestor Espenilla Jr. (3rd from left) together with Chamber of Thrift Banks and Manilabank president Benjamin Yambao (5th from right) cut the ceremonial ribbon to mark the opening of the convention's IT exhibit. Also in photo are (from left): Convention and Philippine Business Bank chair Alfredo Yao, CTB director and RCBC Savings Bank president Lope Fernandez, Jr., CTB director and Luzon Development Bank president Tomas Clemente, Jr., CTB secretary and Planters Development Bank president Ma. Flordelis Aguenza, Convention vice chair and BPI Family Savings Bank president Alfonso Salcedo Jr., CTB 1st VP and Bataan Savings and Loan Bank president Lolita Simpao, CTB executive director Suzanne Felix and CTB 2nd VP and Queen City Development Bank president Rogelio Florete.

CALTEX PIONEERS LOW SULFUR FUEL OIL SUPPLY IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Caltex Marketing Commercial and Industrial (C&I) team recently acquired a new contract with Pilipinas Kao Inc (PKI) for the supply of Low Sulfur Fuel Oil (LSFO), a new and more cost-effective solution to meeting the stringent emission standards required by the Philippine Clean Air Act. Caltex is the country's pioneer in the business of supplying LSFO to industrial customers. PKI is an ISO 9001:2000-certified company engaged in the manufacture and distribution of oleochemicals. The company is wholly owned by Kao Corp, a major consumer products and chemicals company in Japan. Using sophisticated technology, PKI converts coconut oil, its major raw material, into higher value added, environment friendly chemicals. Photo shows Haruhiko Terada, president and CEO of Pilipinas Kao Inc (3rd from left) and Lito Lopez, general manager of Caltex Marketing Commercial and Industrial sealing the deal with a handshake at the signing of the supply contract. With them are (from left) lawyer Erotido Valdez, vice president and chief financial officer, PKI; Joseph Austin A. Ledesma, buyer, PKI; Jonathan M. Sy, district manager, Caltex C&I; Edgardo L. Lirazan, assistant vice president for Purchasing, PKI; and George O. Gumban, business consultant, Caltex C&I.

No Curfew watch stores keeps 1st Philippine Annual Hip-Hop Music Awards ticking

NO CURFEW watch stores and Tommy Hilfiger watches can well be considered the strongest player in the Hip-Hop genre today. From supporting local acts such as Kyla, Pikaso, South Border to the Mariah Carey Charmbracelet World Tour to the extremely successful Alicia Keys World Tour, both No Curfew and Tommy Hilfiger watches have created great buzz.

As with the the 1st Philippine Annual Hip-Hop Music Awards, No Curfew watch stores and Tommy Hilfiger watches strongly believe in the talent of our very own entertainers.

Hip-Hop had a slow but steady and increasing hip-hop community of artists and fans in the Philippines. Thanks to Empire Entertainment, producer and organizer of the 1st ever Philippine Annual Hip-hop Music Awards, we now have a chance to recognize the finest in the industry. Hosted by MC Dash, Francis M. and Karylle, the awards, held at the NBC Tent, The Fort was a night filled with R&B, hip-hop, DJ's and MC's guests, performers and presentors.

The event started with a pre-show with performances by Stick Figgas, Beatboxer and Krazykyle and the Rapscallion Familia. A brief video history of Philippine Hip-hop was shown as well with mention of Francis M., Andrew E., Michael V., Lady Dianne, Denmark, MC Lara, 4 East Flava, Boom & Kulay, Legit Misfitz, Death Threat and Mastaplann as forerunners in the hiphop industry since 1990.

Presentors included celebrities such as Judda Paolo, Iza Calzado, Sarah Meier of MTV, Angel and Boom of Kulay, Kyla, Luke Mejares, and familiar people in the industry such as Jesse Gonzales from DMC Philippines, DJ's from Magic 89.9TM and Blazin' 105.9. Luke Mejares, Kyla, Sun Valley Crew, Seven Shots of Wisdom, Mista Blaze, Gloc 9 and Chinese Mafia added flavor to the event by rendering their own unique performances.

It was a cool spectacle to see hip-hop colleagues all together bringing much respect and camaraderie among fellow hip-hop artists. Contrary to unpopular belief that hip-hop is associated with gangsters, wars and negativity, the night seemed like a loving reunion of the growing hip-hop community for both artists and fans alike.

Highlights of the evening included Chinese Mafia's artistic performance including a Dragon Festival-like celebration, Francis M. receiving the No Curfew Pioneer Award for longevity and excellence in the hip-hop industry, Pikaso's Tommy Hilfiger Rookie of the Year award, Seven Shots of Wisdom's song number with a chorale backup, Krook & J.O.L.O. rapping a medley of classics from Mastaplann and the finale being an open-mic freestyle number with all the hip-hop artists participating on stage each bringing in their own style to the beat mixed by DJ Kimosave. After the event, some fans formed a huge circle and held a self-exhibition breakdance showing their best dance steps.

Revolutionary plastics from Orocan

OROCAN, the country's leading plastic product manufacturer, is credited for creating awareness in the use of plastic products here in the Philippines. Since its inception more than 20 years ago when it first manufactured plastic pails, Orocan has established itself as a prime source of innovative and stylish-looking plastic home consumer products, with its wide range of choices fit for any lifestyle.

Product brands like the Caha de Oro Image Dresser, Drawers with Wheels, the No-Slip pails, and other earlier products like the Millenia, Contura, Familia, Rice Dispenser, have all made their mark in the minds of the Filipino consumer, and continue to generate top-of-mind recall because of their durability, functionality, affordability, and overall good looks.

And now Orocan introduces the Caha de Oro Ventura space-saver chest and drawers, the newest addition to the company's growing list of innovative products. The Ventura comes with a new design and classy leather-like finish for an exquisitely elegant, stylish and sleek look, making it a perfect addition to anyone's home décor. And because it is affordable, the Ventura is a value-for-money investment, an essential item for a much organized and stylish way of living.

Made of virgin resin plastic, Orocan products are superior compared to others in the market. Virgin resin makes the products more rigid, thus enabling them to be tougher, and able to withstand the harshest conditions or physical abuse. Even though virgin resin plastic is a bit expensive, Orocan products are more economical in the long term than other products that use recycled plastic, which, though cheaper, makes the products more brittle and less durable.

Also, because of the virgin resin, Orocan products boast of a smooth texture, where there are no harsh edges, bumps or cracks, and has shock-proof qualities borne out of precision craftsmanship and strict quality control, all trademarks of high-quality manufacturing that Orocan is known for.

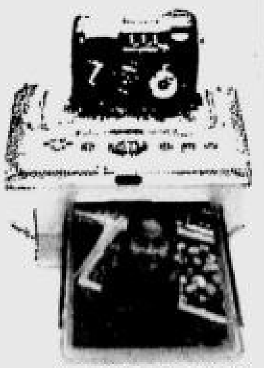
And because they're from Orocan, durability is guaranteed. The addition of Caha de Oro Ventura in its expanding product line shows Orocan's commitment to make lives easier for everyone.

ALABANG JAYCEES HOLDS INDUCTION WITH THE PEOPLE

Breaking with the usual tradition, the new 2005 Board of the Junior Chamber International Alabang or the Alabang Jaycees, led by President Don Juan 'DJ' Bagatsing (in printed shirt), hold their 6th Induction Ceremonies with the people of Alabang, Muntinlupa during their medical mission at the Filinvest Socialized Housing Multipurpose Hall. Inducting them are Past NEVP Art Panganiban, NVP Chito Buenaventura, and Barangay Alabang Chair Vic Ulanday. This is the only time in twenty years that such a unique Jaycee induction was celebrated.

Product FILES

Kodak's complete digital solution



A MOST innovative digital imaging product Kodak introduced in the market is the EasyShare Printer Dock, a combination of a digital photo printer and a camera dock. It's very portable and easy to use. Dock your digital camera, press a button, and in seconds you'd have great looking-photos. It can print borderless photos up to the size of 4 by 6. Photo prints from Kodak's EasyShare Printer Dock have protective coating that makes them waterproof and durable, just like prints from photo developing labs. In addition, the device is PictBridge-compliant, which means any digital camera with PictBridge logo can print on it. It also has built-in MMC/SD card reader, software for photo editing, and built-in infrared compatibility for wireless transfer of photo images from cellphones. The product is part of the big vision of Kodak for the digitized world-a world where everyone can enjoy picture "anytime, anywhere," according to Francois Monnot, Kodak's regional business manager for digital and film imaging systems for Asia region. For the healthy and thriving digital and film imaging market, Kodak has established a system that makes consumers have access to photo printing anytime, anywhere. Kodak Express outlets, which number to about 500 in the country, are now being transformed into complete digital solutions store.

Ginseng - you're libido's best friend

THE WORLD has indeed changed. Full 8 hours of restful sleep and healthy food intake resulting in boundless energy. Ideal but almost impossible today for many people. Because life in the 21st century is so hectic, this ideal situation is rarely achieved. Fortunately, research has proven that there is a natural herb that can help boost the body's energy level to enable it to go "the extra mile". Ginseng can spell a huge difference in one's quality of life in and outside the bedroom after taking it for a period of time.

Ginseng helps improve the body's stamina, vitality and energy level. Ginseng has also been known as a sex stimulant that contributes to enhancing one's libido and sexual performance. In its overall effect on the hormones, ginseng is believed to awaken the sexual glands and help in cases of sexual impotence. Because Ginseng has been proven to be a healing agent in dealing with stress and fatigue it can help remedy sexual impotence caused by stress and tension. Continuous intake of ginseng will energize one's body and help reach its optimum performance in the boardroom and the bedroom.

Botanically known as the 'King of the Herbs', Ginseng has long roots that are believed to represent longevity for those who take it. Ginseng is held in high-esteem because of the endless medicinal purposes it serves. Its genus name, Panax, is derived from the Greek word, panacea, which is also translated to be the 'universal remedy.'

The stems, leaves and roots of Panax species contain ginsenoside and panaxoside, as well as sugar, starch, mucilage and a volatile oil. Ginsenoside is a component that is referred to as the 'active compound', and said to be giving ginseng its valuable properties. It is also the same component that facilitates penile erection.

Ginseng is available as a whole root or cut rootlet, as a fiber, crushed powder, tea or an extract. For convenience, ginseng can be taken in tablet or pill form.

Aside from being a medicinal plant of various purposes, ginseng is also considered as an aphrodisiac and stimulant, said to be providing a positive effect to one's sexual needs. A healthy sex life or at least, recovery from sexual dysfunction is essential in a healthy and happy life. Did we mention in a happy marriage as well?

Rotary ellowship at its best!

METROBANKER RECEIVES AWARD FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

'The Rotary Club International recently conferred the prestigious 'Service Above Self' award to Metrobank vice president Raineida Andrews. A charter president of Rotary Club of Makati San Lorenzo, she survived a tough selection process conducted by the International board and came out as one of the very select 150 awardees worldwide. According to Rotary International president Jonathan Majiyagbe, the award is given to 'outstanding members who have made service a way of life.' Andrews is the area supervisor of 23 Metrobank branches located in Makati and Parañaque. Shown is Metrobank VP Raineida Andrews being congratulated by Rotary Club district governor Jose Cortez (left) and past district governor Romeo Cruz (middle).

Enjoy your summer Sundays at Ayala Greenfield

The summer season has officially begun, which means April sees many energetic activities at Ayala Greenfield. The play-conducive residential development will be hosting a series of family-oriented surprises that will make the scorching season a memorably cool one. Special summer Sundays celebrating the active lifestyle are in store for residents, lot owners, and prospective buyers.

Last Sunday, a camping clinic for kids was held by outdoor experts, as part of its summer event kicked off a season of exceptional fun. On April 10, Kite Team Philippines will teach the family the freedom of flight in a colorful and dynamic kite festival at the Nature Park. A dazzling RC plane aerial exhibition will be held on April 17, while games of skill and accuracy will take center-stage in a day devoted to paintball on April 24.

Activities start at 9 a.m., with Holy Mass celebrations at 10:30 a.m. at the Village Clubhouse. It's a summer to remember at Ayala Greenfield, as participants can also look forward to more summer excitement this May.

Amenities available at the exclusive subdivision include infinity and kiddie pools, jacuzzi, game room, 9-hole putting green and indoor basketball, tennis and badminton courts. Its 15-hectare Nature Park includes a fishing lagoon, picnic huts and tree house, and playfield. The development also has an 18-hole, all-weather championship golf course for those who fancy good golf games.

Ayala Greenfield is a family community that is ideal for those looking for an active lifestyle. It is conducive to daily recreational indoor and outdoor activities, whether they be golf games or other sports. One needn't worry about the distance either, since the place is only a 20-minute ride from Alabang.

A minimal activation fee entitles buyers a proprietary share and membership in the Golf and Leisure Club. For inquiries about the events or further details on Ayala Greenfield Estates, please call 728-7000, log on to www.ayalaland.com.ph, or email ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph.

Ayala Greenfield is a family community that is ideal for those looking for an active lifestyle. It is conducive to daily recreational indoor and outdoor activities, whether they be golf games or other sports

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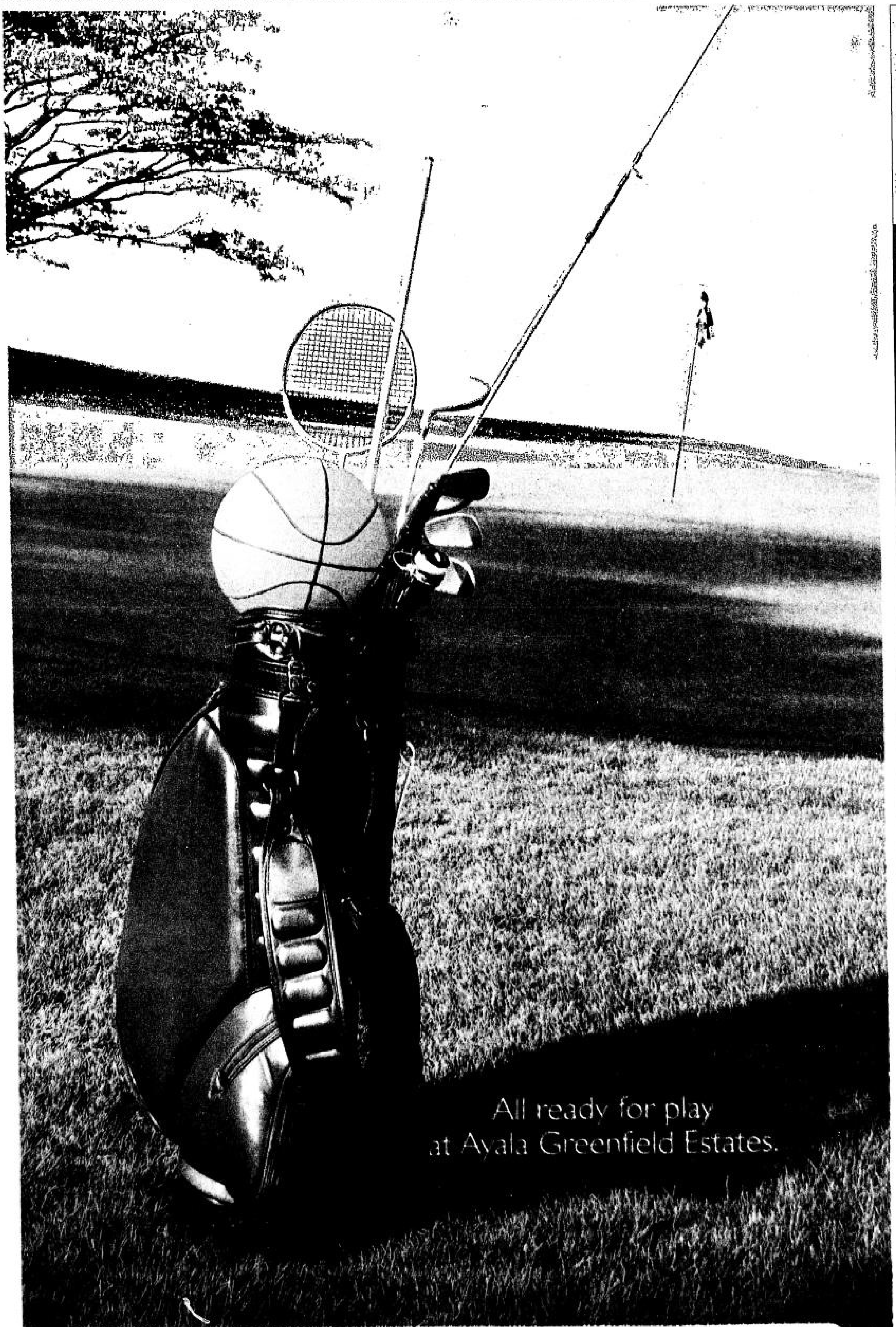


Block off your summer
and head to

AYALA GREENFIELD ESTATES

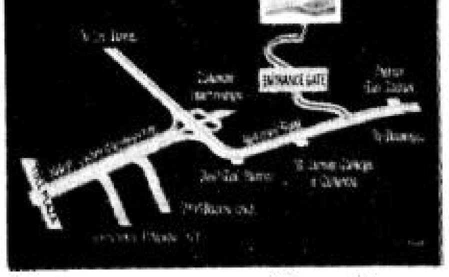
We've lined up differdnt activities at the Nature Park and Village Clubhouse. Other amenities are also available for use on these dates. So whatever the family is into, you're sure to have fun under the sun.

APRIL 3
Camping Clinic

APRIL 10
Kite Flying

APRIL 17
RC Planes

APRIL 24
Paintball



We've packed in everything for everyone at Ayala Greenfield Estates. An exclusive residential community where you can spend time with the family swimming, playing badminton, tennis, basketball or golf. With a minimal activation fee, each lot automatically entitles you to a share in the Golf and Leisure Club. There will never be a dull moment for your active family. Finally, here's a place that will satisfy everyone at once.

AYALA GREENFIELD ESTATES

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
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Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

AT THIS TIME of year, a grassy path in the resort is ablaze with bougainvillea blooms.

Old-fashioned garden in the land of hot springs

A collection of rare and traditional plants makes Tara Farms different from other Laguna getaways

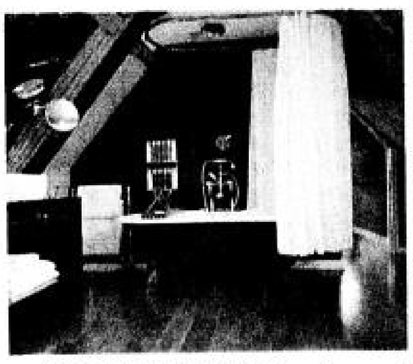
Text by Tita V. Giron
Photos by Joseph Agcaoili

THANK God there are still a few quiet places that one can find in the midst of the crowded, commercialized hot-spring resorts that have sprouted all over Laguna. The place we discovered recently, for example, was one of those old-fashioned getaways that reminded us of yesteryears' quaint picnic grounds.

Although it was located deep in one of the narrow farm roads of Bay town, the route was good and the rural scenes along the way stirred sweet memories of past outings, or excursions as we used to call them. We passed rice fields and fishponds under a clear sky.

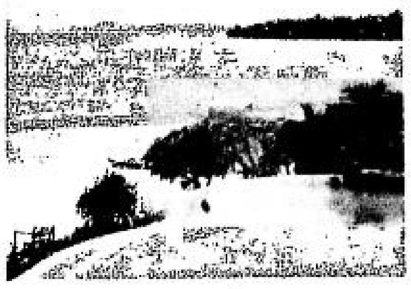
OLD-FASHIONED/ C6

IN THIS ISSUE



EXCLUSIVE, historic Cowshed /D1

LAST-TERM joys and blues /E2



LIVING it up in Bohol—for free /G1

GILDA Cordero-Fernando's new children's story /H1

PLAYTIME with Dr. Howard Gardner /I1

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Daimos - Opening Theme	102352	Shaman King - Opening Theme	102364
Daimos - Closing Theme	102353	Shaman King - Closing Theme	102365
Flame Of Recca - Opening Theme	102354	Slam Dunk - Opening Theme	102366
Flame Of Recca - Closing Theme	102355	Slam Dunk - Closing Theme	102367
Fushigi Yugi - Opening Theme	102356	Voltes V - Opening Intro	102368
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Hunter X Hunter - Closing Theme	102358	Voltes V - Closing Chorus	102370
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TERESING Mendezona and Rosebud Sala

A 'knighting' in Cebu

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE CEBU chapter of La Chaine des Rotisseurs must be one of the fastest-growing worldwide. At a recent glittering event, 23 new members were inducted into this prestigious gourmet organization.

Fred Frank Fricke, chancellor-president of La Chaine in the Philippines, dubbed each new member "Chevalier" and "Dame" with a glistening sword.

La Chaine's Madame la Baili in Cebu is **Amparito Llamas Lhuillier**, who presented each inductee with the famous chain on a satin band. She was stunning, as always, in a black Chantilly lace gown sent by her celebrated daughter, **Monique**. The cascade of diamonds was from her own personal collection.

On stage, too, to welcome all the new members were **Michel Lhuillier** as vice *echanson* of L'Ordre Mondial des Gourmets Degustateurs, an organization within La Chaine; **Teresing Mendezona** as vice *conseiller gastronomique*; Dr. **Julian Divinagracia**, treasurer; **Al Evangelio**, press officer; and Dr. **Nestor Alonso**, charge de mission with the duty to announce, and implement, special rules.

Some of these rules are: dress code must be followed; pepper, salt or water are not served; politics and religion should not be discussed; no standing up during dinner; and rowdy behavior should be avoided.

Fabulous meal

Dietmar Dietrich is a high-ranking member of La Chaine in Cebu as vice *conseiller culinaire*. If he wasn't around for the induction rites it was because, as executive chef of the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel, he was in the kitchen preparing the fabulous menu. He had 250 people to cook for, and to serve with impeccable finesse.

The event had a black-and-white theme, and the venue was the grand ballroom of the Waterfront Hotel. The hall must be close to a hectare, if not more, in size. Three sides were draped entirely in black. The fourth side had the stage covered in black velvet, of course.

Guests sipped chilled Veuve Clicquot champagne as they mingled and greeted each other, and posed for innumerable photographs. Thoughtfully, in front of the dais for the induction rites—"enthronization," Fred FF called it—small tables and chairs were arranged for the ladies.

Hanging from the ceiling, right at the center of the ballroom, was a huge cylinder in white silk that enclosed the dinner area. Silvery Tiffany chairs were specially made for the occasion, complementing the well-laid tables draped with white damask and laden with fine porcelain, crystal, cutlery and elaborate centerpieces. There were white roses, lilies, ostrich plumes and sparkling coronets for the ladies to crown themselves.

Impressive

The hotel's general manager, **Marco Protacio**, was among the new inductees, and he masterminded the whole thing. He didn't know where to turn as congratulations came from all directions.

Margie Lhuillier explained she was not a new inductee, but rather a returning member as she joined La Chaine when it started in Cebu 11 years ago. She spends a lot of time in Las Vegas where she has a thriving business concern.

Among the new inductees were **Robert Lilja**, the new executive chef of the Cebu Marriott Hotel; prominent antique collector **Joel del Prado** whose wife **Carla** (nee **Larrazabal**) was wearing a beautiful gown by **Inno Sotto**; **Mariter Dumon Klepp**, area director of Zonta International; and **Ricky Dakay**, president of the Cebu Rotary Club which will celebrate its diamond jubilee (75 years) in 2007.

Other inductees: Mactan Shangri-La's general manager **Tim Wright**, resident manager **Daniele Vastolo, Jurgen Pesch, Melinda Diotay, Herve Lampert, Grace Spema, Bess Ortiz, Dave Sharpe, Jorg Hinden, Sergio Papparotto, Tom Hines, Cornel Chirac, Philippe Poppe, Angelo Kram, Stefan Senz, Lars Lofgren** and **Jeremy Young**.

The evening progressed with the guests relishing a delightful menu prepared solely for the occasion. Fine wines and, after dessert, liqueurs and chocolate bonbons were served, also prepared by Chef Dietrich. Then it was time for the show.

The stage's velvet curtains parted to reveal a fairy-tale scene, lit by a dozen crystal chandeliers. That all too familiar Chopin music was, of course, "Ballet Blanc." The best dancers from the Queen City Chamber Ballet flitted about in "Les Sylphides."

Directed by Balletcenter's **Fe Sala Villarica**, the piece was performed by **Mariejan Pestaño, Sheila Lendio, Thea Pala, Monica Villarica, Krystel Ong, Arisa Onozawa, Marianne Trinidad, Tracy Chan** and **Wesley Racoma** (the male soloist).

We later found out that they had all been in costume since 8 p.m. for the midnight performance. Real troopers that they were, they did the number splendidly, and Cebu hoped for them to do a repeat at the next ballet recital.

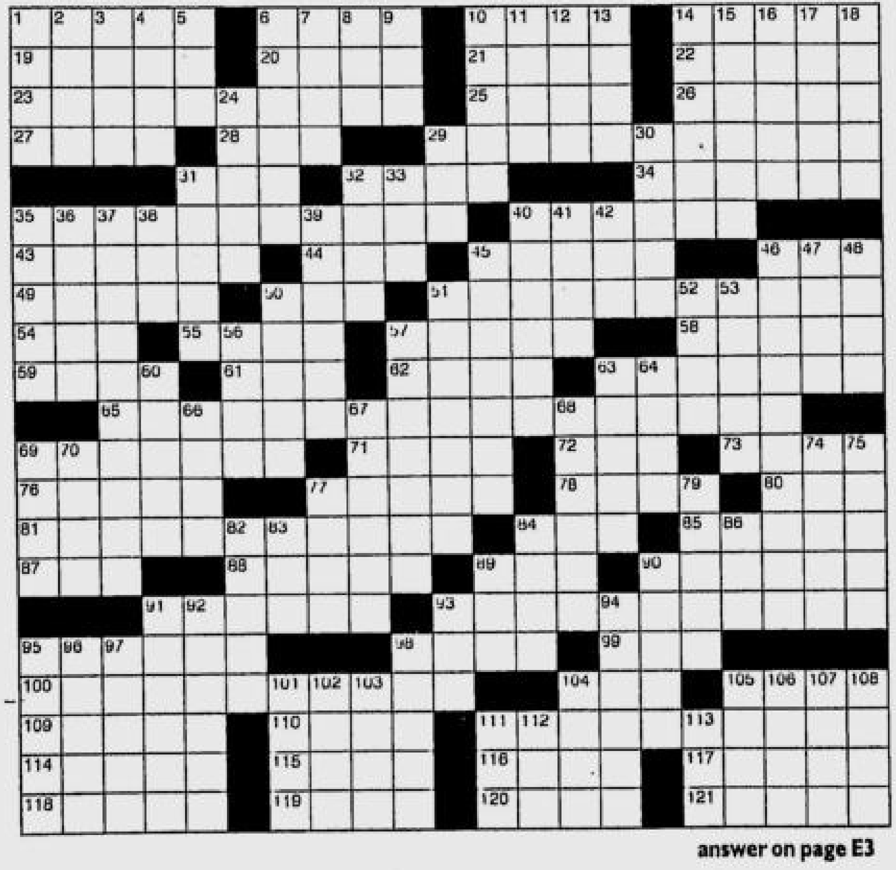
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

ROSTER

ACROSS
1 Ladies' titles
6 Fed. agent
10 Behaves
14 Vicinities
19 The same
20 Arizona Indian
21 Bangkok citizen
22 Gettysburg general George
23 Gene Chandler hit
25 Gates of Microsoft
26 Peeling tool
27 Mouth off to
28 Noted 44-Across subject
29 Don't go too fast at first
31 Off-road vehicle, briefly
32 "Huh?"
34 Eats into
35 Small goatees, e.g.
40 Conan of TV talk
43 Gotten out of bed
44 Keatsian poem
45 Sear, as a steak
46 Furry TV ET
49 Mississippi or Ohio, e.g.
50 "How — things?"
51 QB traded to Buffalo in 2002
54 — kwon do
55 Avoid
57 Begrimes
58 Really tease
59 Display
61 Refinery input
62 Shade trees
63 Not holding up well
65 1950-55 variety show, with "The"
69 Well drillers
71 Tempt
72 Prior to, to poets
73 Piece of plumbing
76 Surface shine
77 Used one's scull
78 Sugar unit
80 Autumn mo.
81 Wet grain-growing fields
84 Tourist's reference
85 Trig topic
87 "Look, a mouse!"
88 Pocket janglers
89 Long, long time
90 Catch some rays
91 "Bonanza" star Lorne
93 Popular herbal remedy
95 Short-term romance
98 Puerto —
99 "— -hawl" (cowboy cry)
100 Brought one's own lunch to work
104 Hoops gp.
105 Uses a laser on
109 Happy birds?
110 Indistinct shape
111 1935 "Mutiny on the Bounty" star
114 Quizmaster, e.g.
115 Boyfriend
116 Moore of "G.I. Jane"
117 Where work may pile up
118 Bassoon inserts
119 Crawling colonists
120 Future plant
121 Destitute

DOWN
1 Pharmacy supply
2 Sea hue
3 Diving birds
4 West and Clarke
5 — -mo replay
6 1994 Kevin Spacey comedy
7 Bewail audibly
8 Busy month for CPAs
9 Zilch
10 Ready to hit one out
11 Stylish
12 Anecdote
13 Farm tower
14 Electrical unit
15 Motive
16 Like some seals
17 Fred Astaire's sister
18 Medieval menials
24 Japanese bed
29 Golf average
30 "Jurassic Park" star Sam
31 Web surfers
32 Walk in water
33 Go in haste
35 Small pies
36 Heap of literature
37 When a shadow becomes visible?
38 Poet's inits.
39 Stinging wasp
40 Threat conclusion
41 Present prettifiers
42 Tease
45 Was about to overflow
46 Having as a goal
47 Diving bird
48 — shul
50 Psychic surrounders
51 Stephen King's "— Claiborne"
52 Thus
53 Exhume
56 "Boss" on "The Dukes of Hazzard"
57 Locks up
60 Inferior
63 Waffle topper
64 "Psst" alternative
66 Do like Daffy Duck
67 Stritch of the stage
68 Part of FDR
69 Frightful giant
70 "Why would —?"
74 Frigid
75 Happening
77 Supreme Norse god
79 Lull
82 Sour-tasting
83 Buck's mate
84 Magical power
86 Ireland-to-Iceland dir.
89 And the like: Abbr.
90 Pussyfoot
91 Stared
92 Salon jobs
93 Comic Caesar
94 Cross-species
95 More adept
96 Bowling unit
97 Intensity
98 Picture puzzle
101 "Waterloo" singers
102 Country's Campbell
103 It's half the faun
104 Christen
105 Western novelist Grey
106 Singer Lane
107 Trudge
108 Like lingerie
111 Tower Records buys
112 Jerry — Lewis
113 Card game



answer on page E3

Old love rekindled

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

'My conscience has been bothering me because I am married and it's wrong to fall for another person'

DEAR Emily,

I am in my 40s and married happily for over 15 years. My problem started when I met a former love.

It's really strange that we met again after more than 20 years. He is also married, happily, so he claims.

We go out—lunches, dinners, coffee. We chat on the phone and catch up on each other's lives. Then we got closer and closer. We think alike and get along so well. He's like a soul mate and our connection is really amazing! I feel like we never missed out on those 20 years!

I'm so stressed emotionally. I used to think it was just a big crush but now I know it's something deeper.

My conscience has been bothering me because I am married and it's wrong to fall for another person. My husband is fun and loving—actually a very cool guy. Our marriage is not perfect but it's been a good one.

I don't really know why this happened. People look at us (my husband and me) as an ideal couple and I think this will eventually destroy me. My friends are very supportive but they are telling me to stop feeling this way before my husband finds out.

To this day I feel the romance part is a one-way street. He (the other guy) is very sweet and caring, but maybe I am just misinterpreting things. What I feel for him is what I call my life's "little secret" and I plan to keep it until the day I die.

Do you think I'll get over this? Am I so bad for feeling this way?

PJ

Would a spanking make you feel less bad? Or would holding your hand assuage your guilt? Your marriage, you say, is okay; your husband is a cool guy, yet you have a teeny subliminal death-wish in this protracted "romance."

Have you considered that you could break up a reasonably good marriage for someone you are not even sure if he is as crazy about you, as you are about him? I am all for love—that breathless, can't-live-without-you love—but there must be a meeting, a reciprocity of passion so great that the whole world can disappear without you two batting an eyelash.

Have you become so bored with your marriage and complacent in the goodness of your husband that you need this emotional upheaval for a more exciting life?

What is just friendship to a man is often misconstrued as romance by many women who see what they feel in their hearts. Remember the saying, "Men are from Mars, women are from Venus"? Unless this friend defines his feelings and motives clearly, play it as cool as he is playing it and don't wallow in misery—yet.

Stretch this period of friendship. He might not even be what you imagine him to be. Time may come when you will notice nicks and cracks during your conversations that one day, you might thank the heavens you didn't marry him!

Sure, you're human and vulnerable to temptation. Just remember: One-way streets are only good for traffic.

Can't stand on her own

My husband has been having an affair with another woman for almost three years but I learned about it only last year. I'm holding on to our marriage for the sake of my children. We still live together and are civil to each other but nothing more.

I don't want to make my life miserable because it hurts so much knowing they see each other and text each other constantly. I want to separate from him but how can I move when I don't have a job to support my children? I pray every day that God will enlighten him so that he will do what is right.

I don't have any idea what legal separation entails. Is it right to think of legal separation if he won't change?

ANN

Has there been a period in your marriage when you two were extremely happy and couldn't stay away from each other? What went wrong? Do you quarrel constantly? Have you talked to your husband seriously about your marriage and where he wants it to go? Is his affair for real or just for the moment? Has he done it before? Are you sure he is not just flirting with this woman to make him look macho and still attractive?

If you and your husband cannot communicate anymore, ask someone you both respect and listen to, to talk to him—not to beg him to stay, but just to clarify where the marriage stands right now. Make him aware that he cannot abandon his family financially even if he separates from you.

And while contemplating the S word, make yourself useful already this early. See what skills you have and start perfecting them now—whether they will enable you to set up a *carinderia* or a dress shop, become a manicurist on call, a secretary—anything that will support you and your kids.

Don't be picky and don't bewail your sorry plight. These little trials, I assure you, are not meant to make you miserable. They're there to make you a better, stronger and more reliable person. Believe in yourself and others will believe in you, too. Your husband, included.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.

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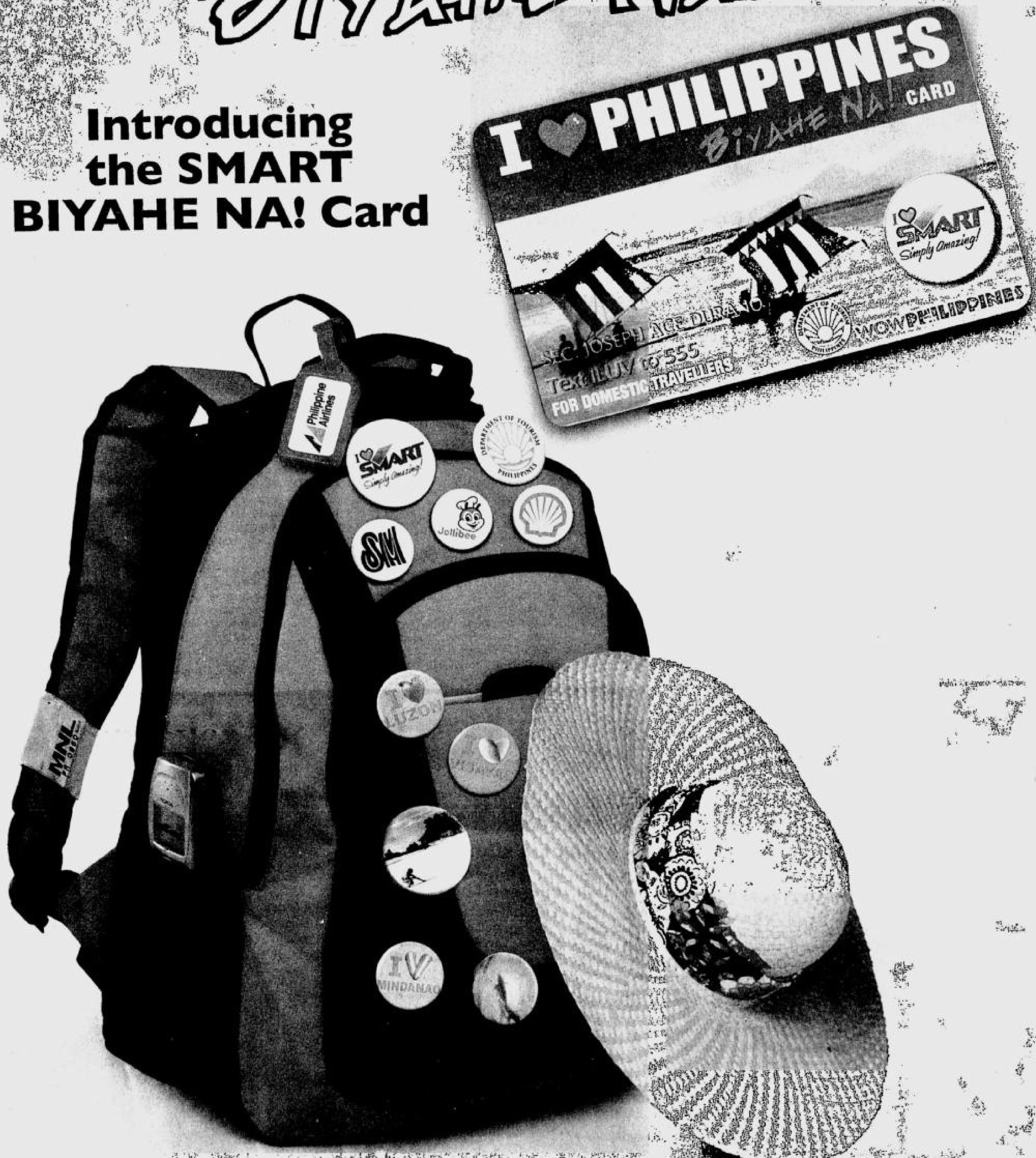

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BIYAHENG Get special travel packages from DOT partner travel agencies.

*Rates not applicable from Dec. 15, 2005 to Jan. 15, 2006.

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THE SPACE kitchen utilizes minimalism. High-gloss slab doors, full-length steel handles and stainless steel feet are stylish and modern.

Modern kitchen for new homeowners

EMIL Avanceña, a marketing communications manager and father of two energetic boys, and his wife Angela, a special education teacher, were making the transition from renting a house to owning one.

Avanceña, a grandson of the late President Manuel Quezon, always wanted to build his own house and the couple wanted a kitchen that would complement their newly constructed residence in Quezon City.

A visit to the newly opened MFI showroom at the Federal Design Expo, which was suggested by a friend, found them the system they wanted for their home. The Avanceñas chose the Space kitchen from MFI's wide range of designs. With their predominantly white walls and furnishings, the stylish and modern Space kitchen was an ideal match. The system has minimalist high-gloss slab doors, full-length steel handles and stainless steel feet.

Emil said they were attracted by the unique kitchen designs of MFI that were not the generic, usual styles.

Efficient service by the MFI staff helped them make up their minds. The Avanceñas said the staff was really knowledgeable about their products, and gave much needed advice.

THE AVANCEÑAS enjoy hanging out in their new kitchen.

Even during installation of the kitchen in their home, the couple found the MFI staff very helpful.

Emil said they would not only consider MFI for future needs but they would also recommend it to friends who were building or renovating their homes.

The showroom of MFI, Europe's No. 1 integrated kitchen retailer/manufacturer, is at the Federal Design Expo, 2250 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City. Call 8404644 or 8936589.

Summer events at the mall

FESTIVAL Supermall celebrates summer with a string of sports events starting April 16. The inaugural event is "Sagad: the Summer Scoot Party," the first-ever scooters and bikers assembly to be held in a mall in the southern part of Metro Manila.

The highlight of "Sagad, the Scoot" promo, which is open to all scooter riders, is the search for the most trashed motorbike. According to event organizer Raul Floresca of Scooterista Magazine, the winning scooter will be patched up, replaced with brand-new tires and given a fresh paint job. The owner will also receive prizes courtesy of Castrol,' Action Hobbies, Puma and Adidas.

To further spice up this scooter party are a fashion show featuring riders' gear and a band concert by Orange and Lemons, one of the country's top bands today.

Display booths of sponsor products will be put up during the event. Registration starts at 5 p.m. on April 16 at the Bridgeway Parking Area of Festival Supermall. Some 800 scooteristas are expected to attend this grand scooter bash, says Floresca.

On April 15-May 13, a sports fair will be held at the mall's Carousel Court, where various tenants will offer special discounts on sporting goods and fashion items.

Another summer activity is an aero marathon contest at the Sphere Gym on April 17. This one-of-a-kind amateur aerobics competition will test the endurance capacity of participants as well as their capability to follow instructions and coordination.

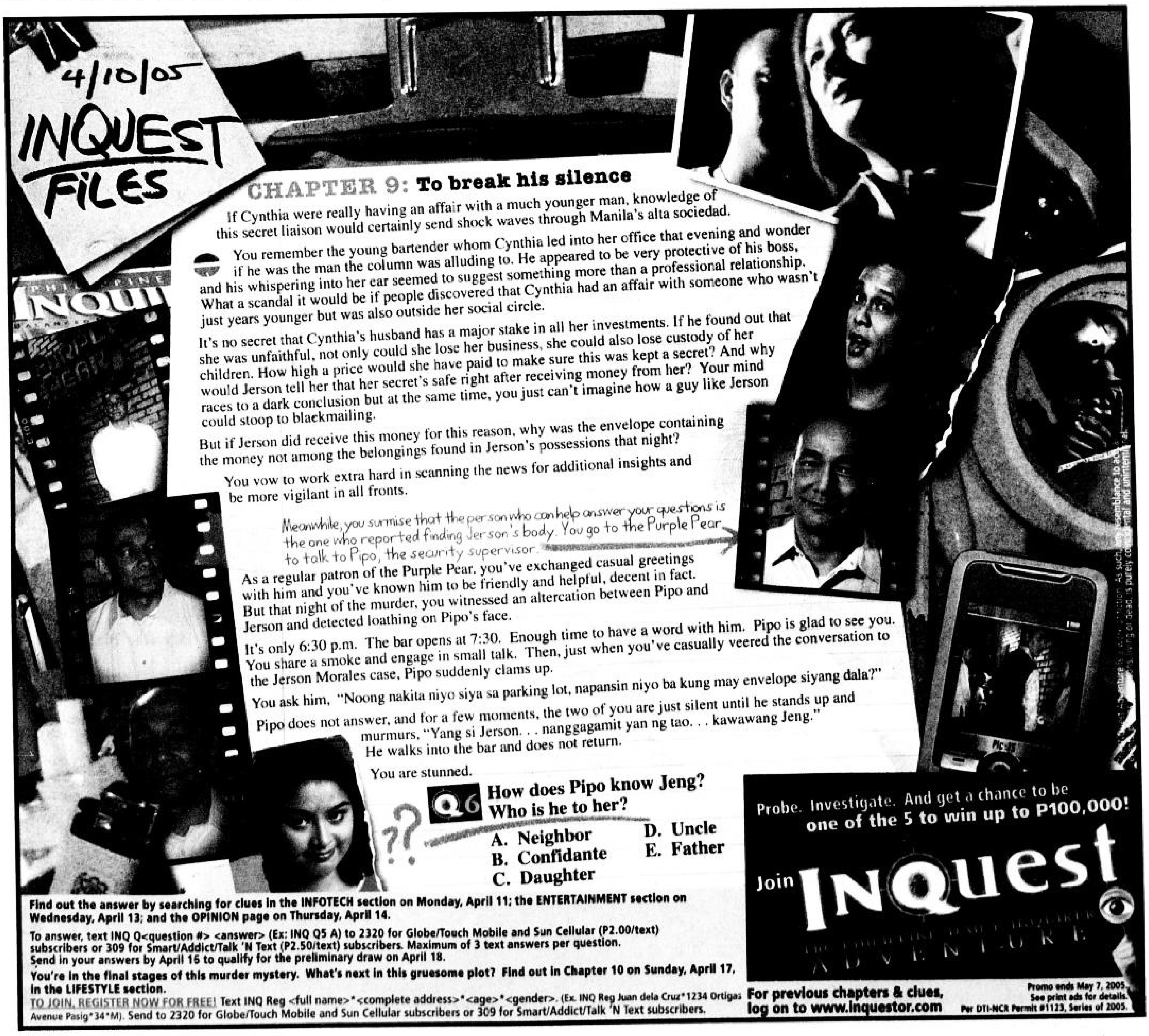
For P150 registration fee, interested male and female fitness buffs can get the chance to win cash prizes and goodies from Sphere Gym. A boxing clinic and tournament will be held at the Elorde Gym on April 16-17 featuring eight bouts with exhibition matches.

There will be a Wushu competition on May 1, and Lion Dance and Acrobatics competition on May 15.

On April 29-30, Gameworx, in cooperation with the Darts Council of the Philippines, holds a dart clinic and tournament. Both the dart clinic and tourney will be open to male and female players. There will be two categories, the classified mixed doubles (1 pro and 1 amateur player) and the Class A and B singles.

On April 30, Anlene will hold a "Love Your Bones" mall tour at the Carousel Court to help propagate the campaign against osteoporosis. There will be fun games, raffles, special presentations from invited contortionists and breakdancers, aerobic sessions, free lectures and reflexology booths.

Festival Mall is at Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa. Call 8503517 for inquiries.



CHAPTER 9: To break his silence

If Cynthia were really having an affair with a much younger man, knowledge of this secret liaison would certainly send shock waves through Manila's alta sociedad.

You remember the young bartender whom Cynthia led into her office that evening and wonder if he was the man the column was alluding to. He appeared to be very protective of his boss, and his whispering into her ear seemed to suggest something more than a professional relationship. What a scandal it would be if people discovered that Cynthia had an affair with someone who wasn't just years younger but was also outside her social circle.

It's no secret that Cynthia's husband has a major stake in all her investments. If he found out that she was unfaithful, not only could she lose her business, she could also lose custody of her children. How high a price would she have paid to make sure this was kept a secret? And why would Jerson tell her that her secret's safe right after receiving money from her? Your mind races to a dark conclusion but at the same time, you just can't imagine how a guy like Jerson could stoop to blackmailing.

But if Jerson did receive this money for this reason, why was the envelope containing the money not among the belongings found in Jerson's possessions that night?

You vow to work extra hard in scanning the news for additional insights and be more vigilant in all fronts.

Meanwhile, you surmise that the person who can help answer your questions is the one who reported finding Jerson's body. You go to the Purple Pear to talk to Pipo, the security supervisor.

As a regular patron of the Purple Pear, you've exchanged casual greetings with him and you've known him to be friendly and helpful, decent in fact. But that night of the murder, you witnessed an altercation between Pipo and Jerson and detected loathing on Pipo's face.

It's only 6:30 p.m. The bar opens at 7:30. Enough time to have a word with him. Pipo is glad to see you. You share a smoke and engage in small talk. Then, just when you've casually veered the conversation to the Jerson Morales case, Pipo suddenly clams up.

You ask him, "Noong nakita niyo siya sa parking lot, napansin niyo ba kung may envelope siyang dala?"

Pipo does not answer, and for a few moments, the two of you are just silent until he stands up and murmurs, "Yang si Jerson. . . nanggagamit yan ng tao. . . kawawang Jeng."

He walks into the bar and does not return.

You are stunned.

Q6 How does Pipo know Jeng? Who is he to her?

A. Neighbor
B. Confidante
C. Daughter
D. Uncle
E. Father

Find out the answer by searching for clues in the INFOTECH section on Monday, April 11; the ENTERTAINMENT section on Wednesday, April 13; and the OPINION page on Thursday, April 14.

To answer, text INQ Q<question #> <answer> (Ex: INQ Q5 A) to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular (P2.00/text) subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text (P2.50/text) subscribers. Maximum of 3 text answers per question. Send in your answers by April 16 to qualify for the preliminary draw on April 18.

You're in the final stages of this murder mystery. What's next in this gruesome plot? Find out in Chapter 10 on Sunday, April 17, in the LIFESTYLE section.

TO JOIN, REGISTER NOW FOR FREE! Text INQ Reg <full name>*<complete address>*<age>*<gender>. (Ex. INQ Reg Juan dela Cruz*1234 Ortigas Avenue Pasig*34*M). Send to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text subscribers.

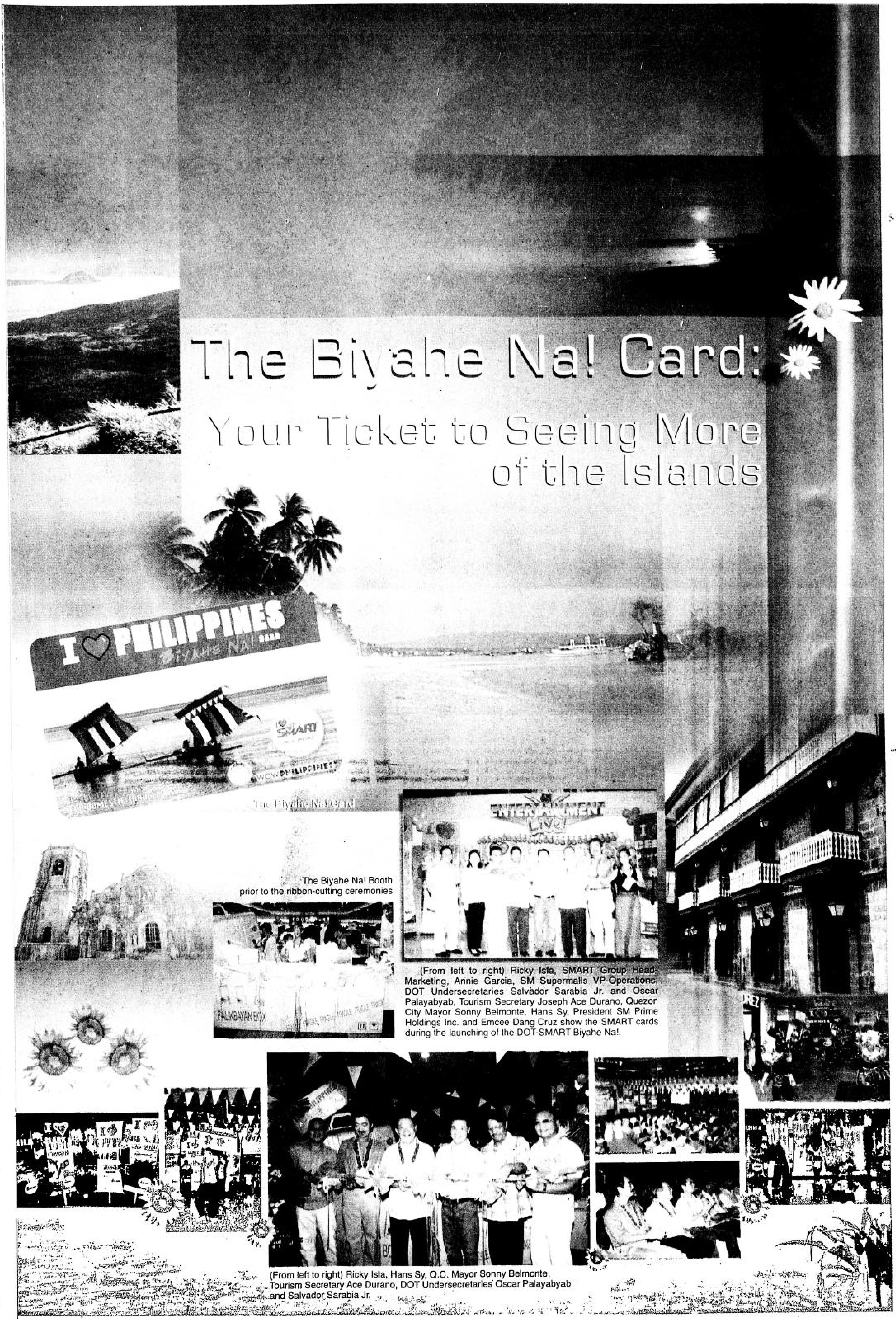
Probe. Investigate. And get a chance to be **one of the 5 to win up to P100,000!**

For previous chapters & clues, log on to www.inquestor.com

Promo ends May 7, 2005.
See print ads for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #1123, Series of 2005.

The Biyahe Na! Card:

Your Ticket to Seeing More of the Islands



The Biyahe Na! Card

The Biyahe Na! Booth
prior to the ribbon-cutting ceremonies

(From left to right) Ricky Isla, SMART Group Head-Marketing, Annie Garcia, SM Supermalls VP-Operations, DOT Undersecretaries Salvador Sarabia Jr. and Oscar Palayabyab, Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace Durano, Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte, Hans Sy, President SM Prime Holdings Inc. and Emcee Dang Cruz show the SMART cards during the launching of the DOT-SMART Biyahe Na!.

(From left to right) Ricky Isla, Hans Sy, Q.C. Mayor Sonny Belmonte, Tourism Secretary Ace Durano, DOT Undersecretaries Oscar Palayabyab and Salvador Sarabia Jr.

SMART Communications, Inc. and the Department of Tourism (DOT) recently unveiled the Biyahe Na! Card, the official travel card of the DOT. The Biyahe Na! Card is geared to boosting tourism in the Philippines by showcasing the beauty of our archipelago while offering perks and privileges to cardholders.

During the well-attended launch at SM North Edsa, which incidentally coincided with Secretary of Tourism Ace Durano's birthday, the SMART-produced Biyahe Na! Booth was revealed to the public complete with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The booth itself will serve as the primary outlet for Biyahe Na! Cards to be retrieved. With a Biyahe Na! Card, one can enjoy perks and big discounts from SMART's major partners namely SM, Jollibee, Shell, PAL and Biyaheng Gimik travel partners. Imagine staying in Boracay for 3 days and 2 nights, including breakfast, for only P2,950! Talk about a fantastic way to spend the summer! Other popular establishments such as Toy Kingdom, Baby Co. and Watsons to name a few, offer freebies and discounts as well.

Avail of the Biyahe Na! Card at all SMART Wireless Centers or Biyahe Na! Booths at SM malls nationwide in 4 easy ways. One way to get a Biyahe Na! Card is to purchase a SMART Prepaid phonekit plus ₱30 e-load. Another way is to buy a Prepaid SIM plus ₱30 e-load, then the card is yours! Alternatively, you can also SIM swap your non-SMART SIM, e-load ₱60 and automatically get the card. And for existing SMART subscribers, just download ₱30 worth of Biyahe Na! content, get the card and start enjoying all the privileges it offers!

Watch out for more launches of the Biyahe Na! Card at your local SM malls, starting with SM Cebu today. The Biyahe Na! Card is a gift of Smart to all the travel buffs out there. Truly, this card is a must-have. Get yourself a card so you can start enjoying the perks and discounts while exploring the beauty of the 7,107 islands of the Philippines.

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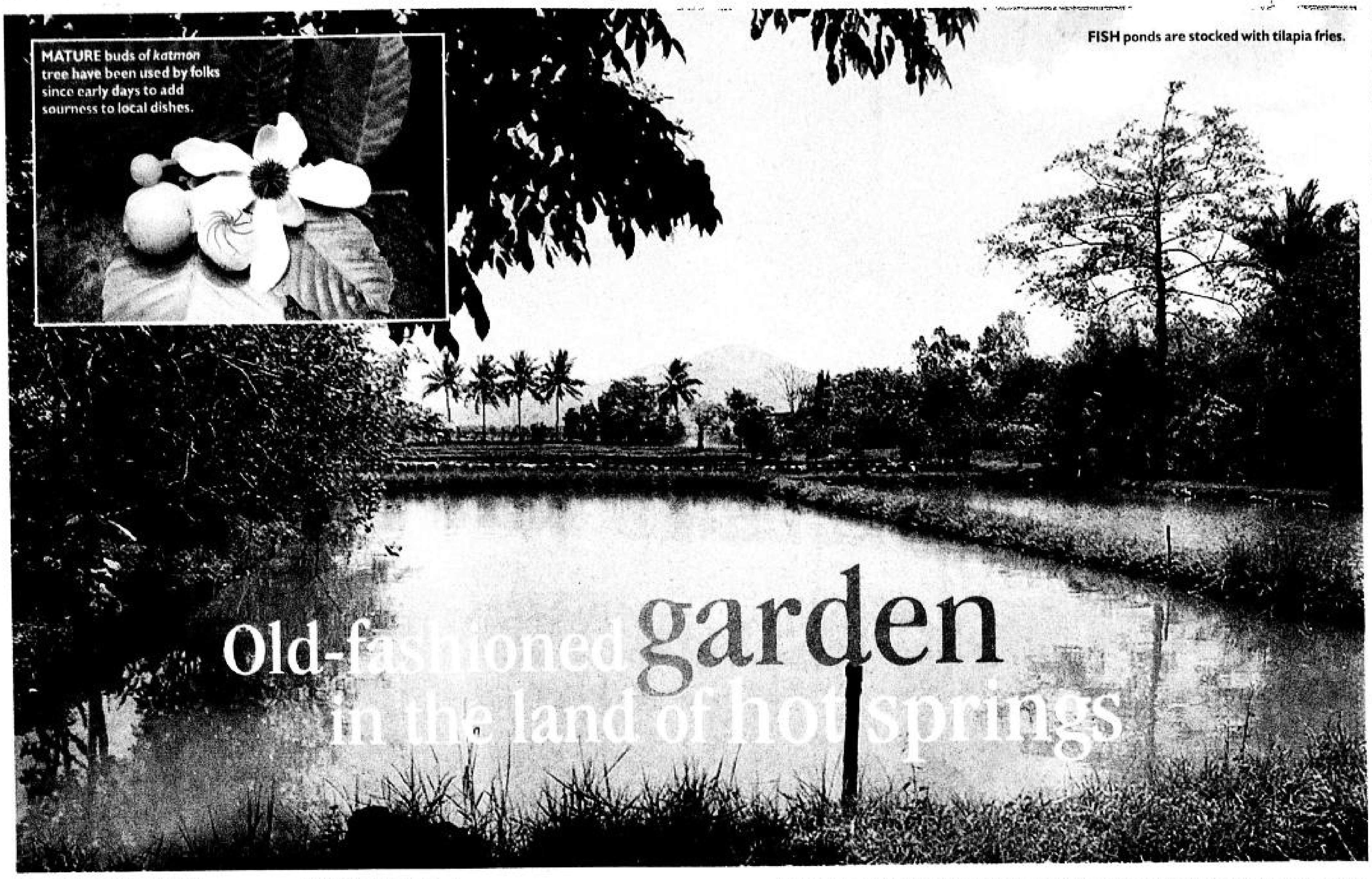
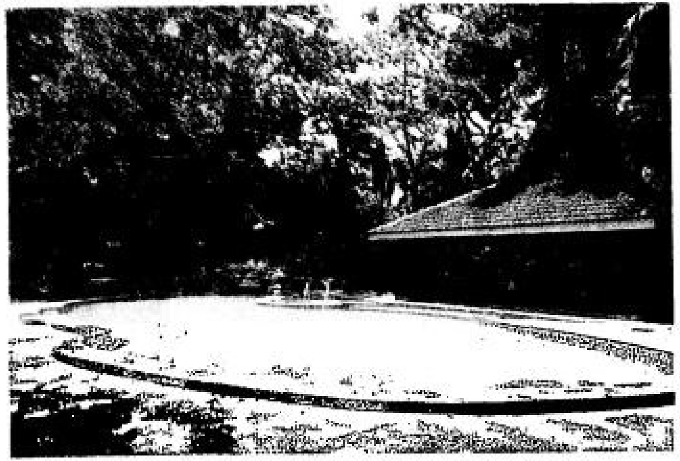
Old-fashioned garden in the land of hot springs



MATURE buds of *katmon* tree have been used by folks since early days to add sourness to local dishes.

FISH ponds are stocked with tilapia fries.

FAR away from the overcrowded, commercial hot-spring resorts is quaint Tara Farms with its koi ponds and old-fashioned gardens.



THE MINERAL hot-spring water is said to have a healing effect.

VISITORS come to Tara Farms for a quiet day of relaxation in the healing hot spring, or for an old-fashioned picnic.

From page C1

Hens and chicks crossed our path. And on the horizon was a panoramic view of mountain ranges.

Tara Farms is run by couple Bong and Issa Sandoval. It is a resort within an orchard and a *tilapia* hatchery. Like similar places in the area, it has the typical hot-spring-fed swimming pool with a jacuzzi on the side. The amenities include an enclosed dining area convertible to a conference room, an inviting hammock for sleeping under the trees, and a cookout corner.

Heirloom

But what makes Tara Farms different from the other private resorts in the area are the old-fashioned gardens with bowers of heirloom vines, flowering trees, scented plants, palms and fruit trees. It is a virtual paradise of the vanishing heirloom vines thunbergia, bridal bouquet, bleeding heart, and the awe-inspiring jade vines. One can also see *camia, rosal,* and the flowering king (Saraca) and queen (Amherstia nobilis) of Philippine flowering trees.

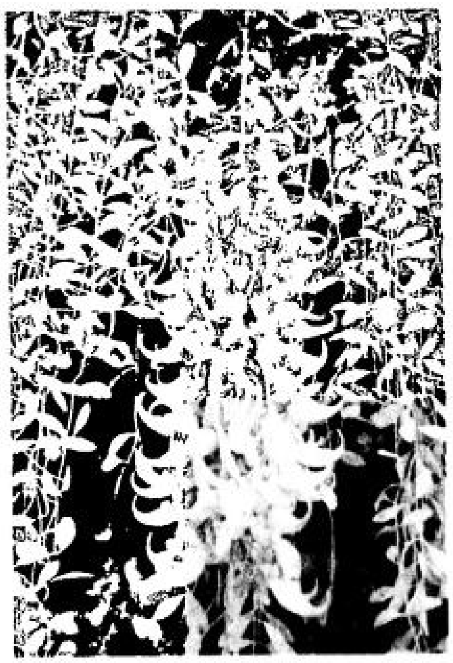
Also unique to the resort are the wonderful herbs and spice trees that fill the air with their spicy scents. Unmistakable is the heady aroma of rosemary coming from a plot with several mature plants and basils of all kinds. On another patch is a merry mix of tarragon, chive, oregano, onion and pepper. The scene stealer, however, is a plot of dills filled with heads of white flowers.

In the midst of the interesting herb garden are more exciting finds such as kaffir lime used for sour dishes and for removing unpleasant odor from the ingredients of native recipes prepared at the farm kitchen. Also in the garden is a full-grown juniper, a rarity in

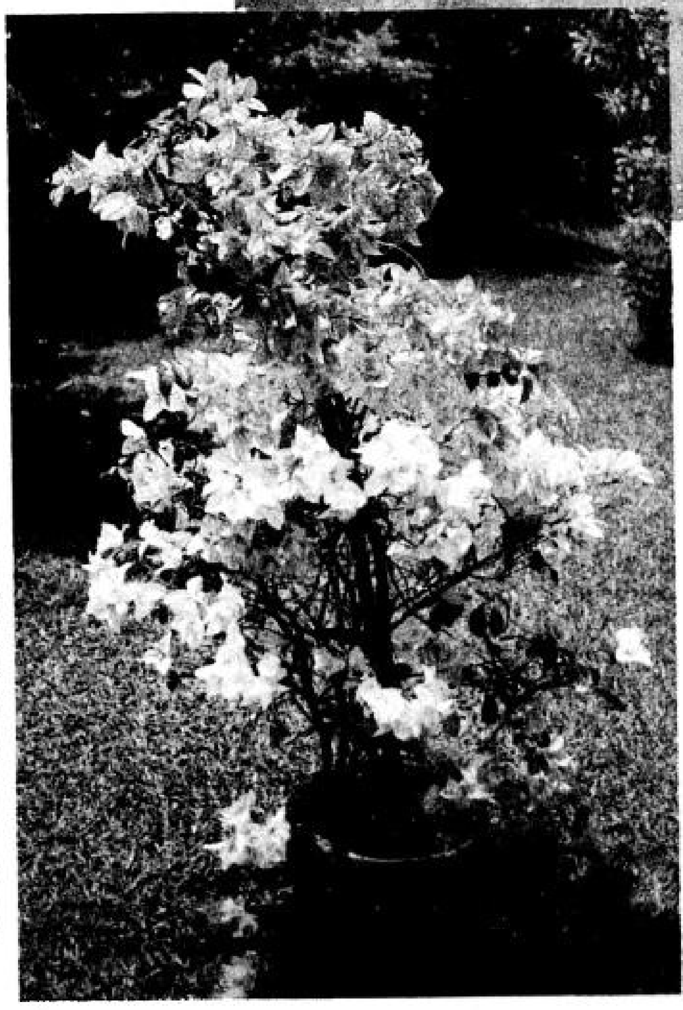
OLD-FASHIONED/ C7

FRISKY koi are fattened by crumbs thrown by visitors.

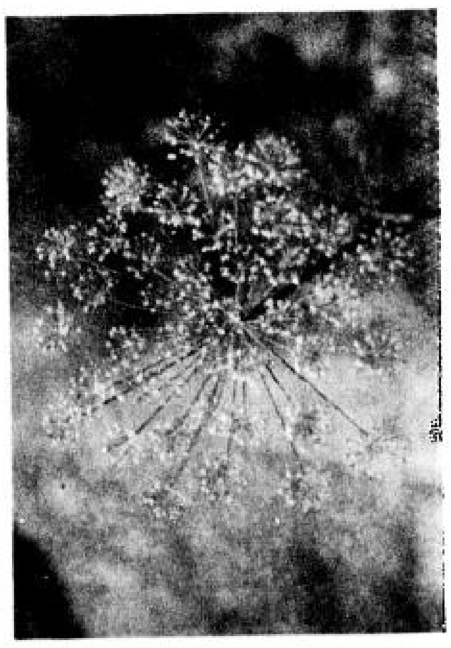
A RARE sight in local herb gardens is this fruit-laden nutmeg tree. The nuts here are ready for picking.



THE AWE-INSPIRING jade vine is a rarely seen ornamental.



THE TOWN of Bay is known to plant lovers for its many varieties of bougainvillea.



THE DILL herbs are full of flowers.

Old-fashioned . . .

From page C6

Philippine gardens. The leaves and barks of the juniper add a distinct flavor to barbecue.

Exciting discovery

But the most exciting discovery in the herb gardens are trees you hear and read so much about, but rarely get the chance to actually see. These are the native *katmon* and the imported nutmeg trees that are fruit-laden at this time.

Katmon flower buds, according to the farm's grand matriarch Marcia Sandoval, are used by the local folk to give the sour taste to *sinigang*. For good reasons, Marcia says the *katmon* tree is her pride. Unfortunately, it has no seedlings to be shared with visitors. Seedlings of herbs in the garden are for sale, however.

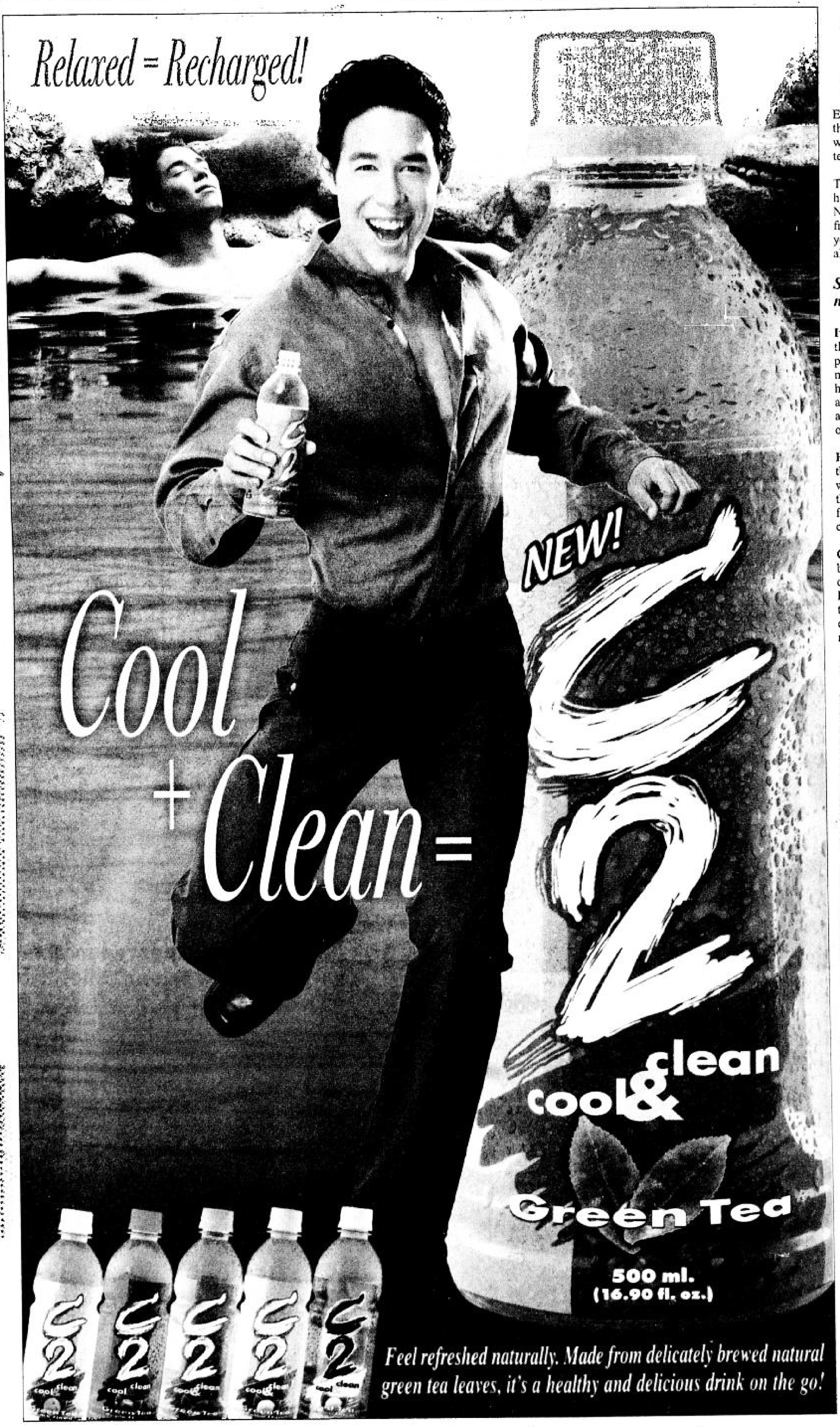
Marcia says she and her late husband Angel acquired the farm 27 years ago out of an obsession to spend their retirement in a rustic retreat. Trees and plants, plus the view of the mystical Banahaw and Cristobal mountains, are hard to resist, she says. They both loved gardening, but it was the mineral hot spring that made up their minds to buy the 4-ha property.

Though their son Bong and his wife Issa now run the place, it is Marcia evidently who is the official keeper of the gardens. She and the head gardener are the only ones who know by heart all the names of and information about the plants and trees.

Tara Farms Resort operates 8 a.m.-8 p.m. and can accommodate up to 60 guests. Call 0927-2982012 or 0916-3855660.

E-mail the author at mgiron@i-manila.com.ph

TARA Farms boasts of a merry mix of basil, tarragon, chives, oregano and more.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Feel refreshed naturally. Made from delicately brewed natural green tea leaves, it's a healthy and delicious drink on the go!

C2 Green Tea: It's delicious, it's health-tea!

Everybody drinks iced tea these days. What they don't realize is that most of the time, what they are drinking is more sugar than tea!

The good news is there's a new kind of healthy iced tea available in the market. New C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea, made from delicately brewed natural tea leaves so you not only feel deliciously refreshed, you'll also get all the health benefits of green tea.

Stay fit to a Tea! Green tea's numerous health benefits:

It's an antioxidant! Studies have shown that green tea has many health-giving properties. It is a powerful antioxidant which means it can help protect the body from harmful micro-organisms. Because of this antioxidant property, it is also recognized as a helpful tool in preventing the development of cancer cells.

Helps burn fat! Green tea is also good for those people trying to lose or maintain their weight. Green tea has a thermogenic effect that produces heat in the body that results in fat burning. It also initiates faster metabolism causing the body to burn fat at a faster rate.

Controls cholesterol! Green tea thins the blood and decreases the possibility of cholesterol formation inside the blood vessels. Instead of absorbing the cholesterol, green tea prompts the body to increase the amount of fat excreted as waste. This reduces the risks on the heart and blood pressure.

Tea-licious!

Unlike some other things that are healthy, C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is actually really delicious. People who are used to softdrinks and sweet juices will surely enjoy its light and refreshing taste. It won't be hard to convert to a habit of drinking something healthier and better for you. Even picky children and teenagers may enjoy C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea's yummy taste.

Spa in a Sip

Much like going to the spa, C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is both relaxing and recharging. Its delicious taste, especially when served cold, is very refreshing while all the real tea benefits make you feel reinvigorated! So anytime you need to feel both refreshed and recharged, a sip of C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is all you need. It's like experiencing an inner spa.

Tea Take-out

All this goodness is now bottled and ready to be consumed anytime, anywhere. All at a very reasonable price!

C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea is available in convenient and resealable plastic PET bottles. It comes in five delicious flavors: Green Tea Plain, Lemon, Apple, Peach and Iced Tea Lemon. The suggested retail price of the 350 ml bottle is only P10, while the bigger 500 ml is only P15.

It's now available at your favorite supermarkets and convenience stores. So grab a chilled bottle of C2 Cool & Clean Green Tea and enjoy a new kind of healthy refreshment.

A film festival called 'Moonrise'

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

AT LAST, a film festival focusing on the environment! And it will happen here.

Credit goes to the Center for Environmental Awareness Education (CEAE), which started six years ago as a training center for teachers of environmental subjects.

Now it's taking another big step toward its goals. It has not only, on its own, begun filming documentaries on ecological sites in the country, but has also organized a festival for documentary films produced by others. Teaching ecology by integrating it into standard school subjects (like history, civics, health, art and others) has been CEAE's method from the beginning. But a documentary film that will turn words into visual action is bound to have greater impact on teachers, students and viewers in general.

Such films are bound to reach a wider public and will, hopefully, encourage people skilled in documentary filming to participate and perhaps develop a new genre in Philippine cinema. The films must, of course, deal with ecological matters and will be presented in a film festival format with awards in various categories given to the best documentaries.

August launching

The project is called the Moonrise Film Festival to be launched in August. CEAE's own documentaries will be shown this April.

The festival, being planned as an annual event, is open to all with stories to tell that would prod viewers to keep our rich biodiversity intact and cultural heritage alive.

Partnering with the CEAE in this venture is Apocalypse Point Productions which, like the CEAE, has long been in the field of environmental education, mainly through film and radio. Both organizations aim not only to increase environmental awareness among teachers and students, but also to promote critical thinking.

Jukka Holopainen, CEAE president and now festival director, explains what this means, "Our projects revolve around educating teachers and children not only what to think about certain environmental issues, but also how to think about them." He believes a project like Moonrise is a good way to promote those goals.

'Charlie' awards

Awards will be given in five categories, three main ones and two others (and perhaps more) to be added as needed. The categories are: Best Documentary on Biodiversity (P75,000 cash prize and trophy); Best Documentary on Campaigns-Mining (P75,000 and trophy); and Best Production Team (P10,000 and a trophy). Organizers have decided to add two other awards—Best Cinematography and Best Editing (each getting P10,000).

The awards are to be called the Charlies. They will be the Oscars of the Moonrise Festival. A Grand Charlie will be awarded to the documentary that effectively focuses on Philippine environment and culture in an attractive, thought-provoking way.

Planners of this film festival got the idea for the name of the award, Charlie, from watching the moon rise on the eastern side of the Pacific at Charlie's Point in Aurora, Baler. Then and there, they drew up plans for the festival. The project's logo, a moon rising on the horizon, was designed by sculptor Aba Magdalena Lluch Dalena.

Subjects

Moonrise planners have come out with a list of suggested subjects for the documentary films, including Culturally and Biodiversity-rich Places, Vanishing People and Wildlife; and the Environment and its Issues. Each film should be 45 minutes or less in length. The last day of submission is May 31 but, to make sure everyone is able to submit his/her entry, late submission will be accepted until June 31.

Contact Gel Santos at CEAE office, 3A Gilmore Heights, 18 Granada corner Castilla Sts., Bgy. Valencia, Quezon City. Call 7217360 or fax 5333712 or e-mail gel@ceae.org.

As we write this, we get reports of excited reactions to the Moonrise Festival, particularly from students for whom this is an opportunity to show off their skills and ideals.

Holopainen enthusiasm and energy for this non-profit organization's various projects remain undiminished. He is particularly grateful to sponsors and donors who, through the years, have kept the CEAE's seminars and workshops going. He cites the Foundation for Philippine Environment (FPE) and the Ford Motors Conservation and Action Grants. The film festival, he says, is only the latest of their unstinting support.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com.

Flower shop operation course

A COMPREHENSIVE course on flower arrangement and flower shop operation for business and pleasure will be offered by Ikebana professor and plant art expert Serapion S. Metilla, 1-6 p.m., April 13-17, at Mett's Plant Art, King Louis Garden Center, Seedling Bank compound corner Edsa and Quezon Ave., Quezon City.

The course, which will include hands-on activities, will cover: first day, Ikebana-Moribana and Shoka; second day, all-around or one-sided and L-shape; third day, crescent shape, Hogarth line and flower shop operation; fourth day, free styles, buffet centerpieces and garland making; and fifth day, corsage, headdress, bridal bouquet, car floral decor and other wedding arrangements. Fee is inclusive of materials, snacks, handouts and certificate.

Registration is ongoing at the Flower Mart in Seedling Bank. Call 4352479 or 9394593.

Book on current favorite plant to be launched

A BOOK on sansevierias written by Benito S. Vergara will be launched at the by-invitation only formal opening of the Los Baños Flower and Garden Show April 14 at the Senior Social Garden, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna.

The show will be open for public viewing April 15-24.

The book is an attempt to identify common sansevierias or Sans in the market and help plant lovers and other people know the different varieties' names.

Many Sans currently in the market are simply known as Sansevieria.

Sansevierias or Sans, together with flowering euphorbias, is the latest fad among plant lovers. This is mainly because of new cultivars in the market.

Sans are one of the most hardy ornamental plants. They thrive in almost any kind of weather and different soil conditions. They also do well in shady areas and inside the house and can stand abuse and neglect.

Sans come in different heights, patterns and coloration of the leaves. The low growing types are ideal as cover plants and for dish gardens while the medium height varieties can be planted singly or in clumps.

More common Sans are now being used to landscape center islands of Metro Manila avenues.

Sans have more than 50 species. In the Philippines, more than 90 percent of varieties available are classified as *Sansevieria trifasciata* 'Laurentii' and sports/mutants from derived varieties.

The Sans Laurentii, planted in different containers, is the latest fad in Korea. The Philippines is the main source of this Sans and it has other varieties that have a great potential for export.

The Sans is among the succulents and cacti that will be showcased at the Los Baños show, according to CV Lazaro, show chair.

Meanwhile, the LBOS will honor Dr. Vicente L. Saplala, its first president, also on opening day. An ornamental plant scientist, Saplala established the first commercial garden in Laguna.

An orchid breeder, he was the team leader of Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development's National Ornamental Horticulture Research and Development 1989-2004.

YOU can have the pleasure—and honor— of producing a new orchid using different varieties of the same genera like *Phalaenopsis amabilis* X *Phalaenosis lueddemani*.

Create a new orchid

By Serapion Metilla
Contributor

GREEN TIPS

CREATING a new orchid is very rewarding. Called hybridizing, this is done sexually with plants that are genetically compatible.

To start, select two healthy plants of different varieties but belonging to the same genera, for example Phalaenopsis. One plant blooms abundantly almost the whole year and is disease-resistant but has small flowers and not so attractive. The other has large flowers, leathery texture and visually attractive coloration but blooms only once a year.

Hybridizing aims to produce a plant with the desired characteristics of both varieties—such as the floriferous-ness and hardiness of one plant and the blooms, texture and color of the other.

Pollinating the flowers is the next step. Do this when the blooms have just fully opened. With a clean toothpick, poke upward the anther cap located on top of the column of the flower of one plant to remove the pollinia (pollens), usually in pairs and yellow-orange in color. The whole anther cap with the pollinia usually sticks to the tip of the toothpick.

Hold a piece of white paper to catch the pollens in case they fall.

Put the pollinia on the stigma of the flower of the second plant you want to cross with the first. The stigma is in a cavity of the same column just underneath the anther. The pollinia will easily stick because the stigma produces a sticky substance.

You may interchange the plants' pollinia.

After you have inserted the pollinia correctly, label each plant with the name of both varieties you used, like *Phalaenopsis amabilis X Phalaenosis lueddemaniana* and the date of pollination.

After a day or two, the petals of the pollinated flowers will wilt. Cut off the wilted petals with sharp scissors to prevent infection, leaving the column intact. In a week or two, the tip of the column will start to swell and the ovary will be enlarged forming a pod. The pod matures in three to four months, turning light yellowish in color. Before it opens, it should be cut off and placed in a sterile and dry plastic bag.

Fruits of some type of orchids take about six months to mature.

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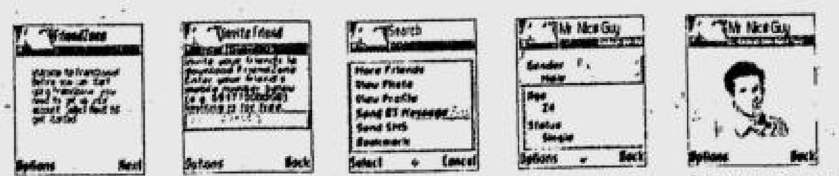

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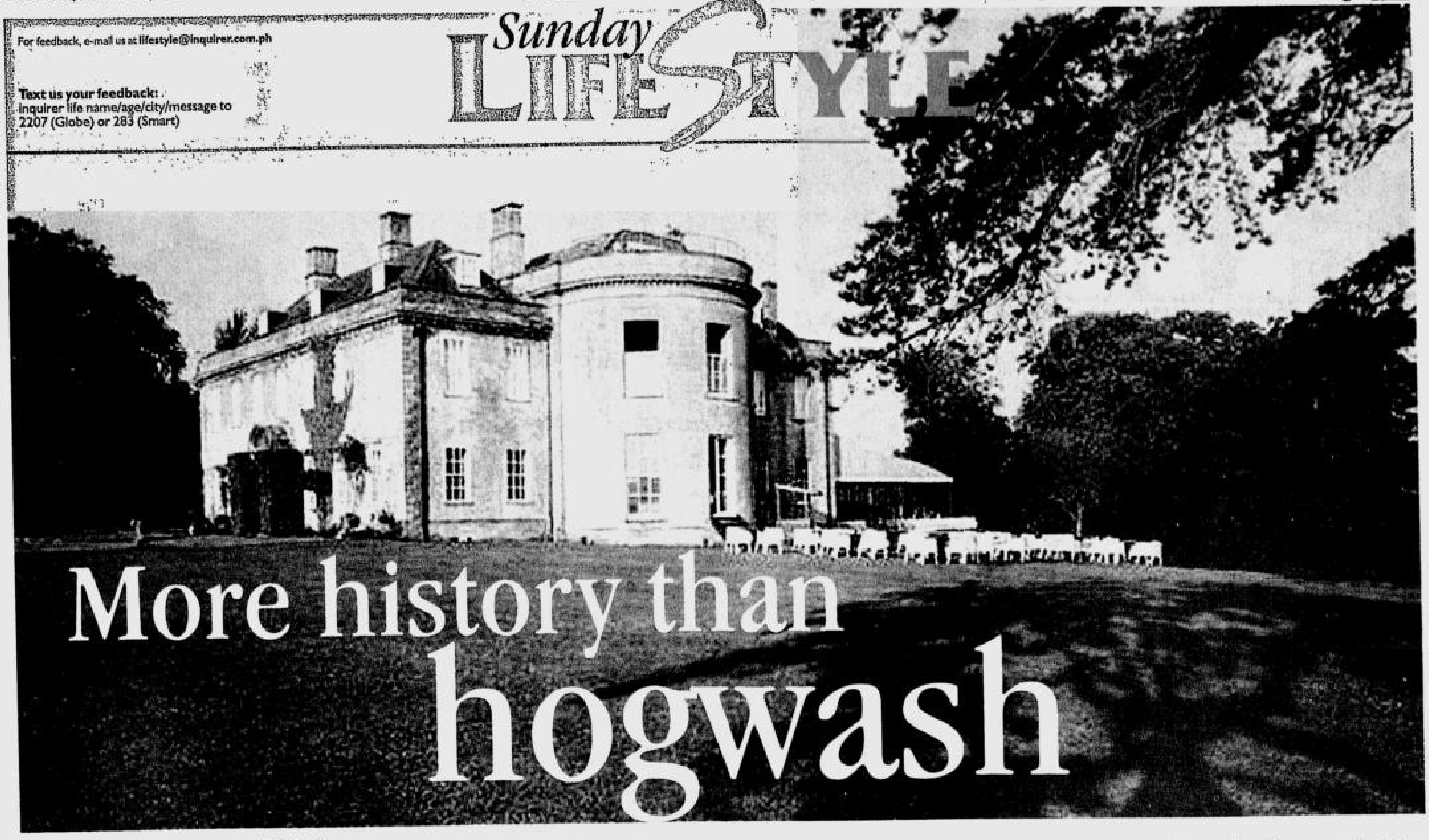

More history than hogwash

Babington House is famed for its Cowshed spa, so named because the original spa, which burnt down, was a cowshed

By Kitty Go
Contributor

THE PROMISE or illusion of beauty linked to a lifestyle is not a new consumer beauty trend. Yet, how often do you find a bath and skincare line that bottles the essence of the actual living environment of an English country house (in Somerset, to be precise) dating from the 14th century? Such is the heritage of the Cowshed brand (available at Lane Crawford in Hong Kong) founded originally to fulfill treatment and toiletry requirements for the Cowshed spa and guest rooms at Babington House.

The group also owns Soho House in the meatpacking district in Manhattan and maintains other private dining establishments around London with the most prominent and exclusive being Soho House on 40 Greek Street with a predominantly media, art and celebrity membership roster. So private is Soho House (and Babington House) that no media is allowed unless they are members (absolutely no cameras in the club). Members and guests have to sign a privacy agreement. INQUIRER had a chance not only to dine at Soho House in London but to also stay at Babington House in Somerset.

Steeped in history

Since the 1370s, Babington House has changed ownership several times but it has always sustained its connection to nature and the community. A stream flowed through the valley and a forest to the north provided timber. Today, a walled garden provides vegetables for the hotel's delicious, organic meals and some of Cowshed's treatment products while a lake is home to wildlife. Resident, a magazine exclusively distributed to homeowners in London's posh borough of Kensington and Chelsea, cites Babington House breakfasts as a benchmark.

Fifteenth-century stained glass, Queen Anne cornices and molded ceilings, dark wooden banisters combined with a Murano chandelier, modern lighting and leather furniture welcome guests and establish the distinct style of the hotel that marries history and modernity. Each of the 28 rooms, from attics in the main house and coach house to the stable and lodge, is equipped with modern amenities and individually decorated with touches such as eye-popping patterned wall-paper, vividly colored walls and contemporary furniture,

MORE/ D2

Globe International Services gives a warm welcome to international legislators

Beyond linking people across the world through its reliable communication services, Globe International Services recently supported international cooperation as a private sector partner at the 112th Congress of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The IPU is an international organization of legislative bodies that aims to work towards peace and cooperation among all peoples. This year marked the first time that the Philippines has hosted the IPU assembly. Senate President Franklin Drilon described it as "a milestone in Philippine legislative history."

The conference was also a major tourism highlight, with over 1,500 delegates from 145 countries convening in Manila from April 3 to 8. They were warmly welcomed at the airport through the Meet and Assist program of the Department of Tourism (DOT) and Globe.

On April 6, the DOT with the Philippine Convention & Visitors Corporation and Globe feted the delegates at a cocktail reception at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, followed by a spectacular showcase of Filipino talent and creativity dubbed "Magkaugnay: a Celebration of the Filipino Spirit." This was organized by the Senate Spouses Foundation, Inc. with exquisite performances by the renowned Bayanihan Dance Company, Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, Ramon Obusan Folkloric Group, and Ballet Philippines.

DOT Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano invited delegates to explore the Philippines' natural wonders. Later, guests marveled at a photo exhibit of Philippine scenic spots at the CCP's main lobby.

Whether discovering the Philippines or vacationing abroad, travelers can stay connected with Globe's international roaming, IDD, and international SMS and MMS, which provide clear connections to over 350 roaming partners in over 180 international destinations. 24-hour roaming assistance and tourist info are also available through *188 Traveler's Guide, while *187 Traveler's Internet gives easy access to the worldwide web while on the go.

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A grand and colorful cultural presentation entertained the delegates.

The delegates were greeted by staff of the DOT and Globe's Meet and Assist program, in coordination with the Manila International Airport Public Affairs Office.

Tourism Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano (second from left) with (from right) Globe President & CEO Gerry Ablaza, Head of Product Marketing Chinky Alcedo, and Head of Corp. Marketing Rita Nisperos.

Globe Head of Product Marketing Chinky Alcedo (left), Senate President Franklin Drilon, and Globe Head of Corporate Marketing Rita Nisperos.

Senator Richard Gordon (left) makes the "WoW Philippines" sign with Mrs. Mila Drilon and multi-awarded fashion designer Pitoy Moreno (center).

The IPU organizing committee: (from left) Mirinisa Tan, Karlo Razon Arceño, Maya Barsana, and Chairperson Carmen Razon-Arceño.

The CCP Board of Trustees: (from left) Dennis Marasigan, Atty. Lorna Kapunan, Fernando Josef, President Nestor Jardin, Chair Emily Abrera, and Martin Lopez.

Mrs. Drilon, President of the Senate Spouses Foundation, Inc., presents the souvenir programme to IPU President Carlos Paez y Verdugo.

Legislators from various South American countries: (from left) Carlos Vallejo y Lopez, Judith de la Mata de Fuente, and Ruben Velez.

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

INDOOR pool area

HOUSE kitchen

More history than hogwash

COWSHED
COWSHED
COWSHED
COWSHED

From page D1

sleek lighting. If you're lucky, you even get a claw-foot tub *inside* your room (in between the large bed and the plasma TV)—all this style without sacrificing comfort. There are indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a gym, sauna, steam and aroma rooms, five tennis courts, a cinema featuring pre-screening releases, football, cricket and croquet pitches. But aside from the relaxed atmosphere, the draw of Babington House has to be its Cowshed spa, christened such because the former spa, which burnt down, was originally, well, a cowshed!

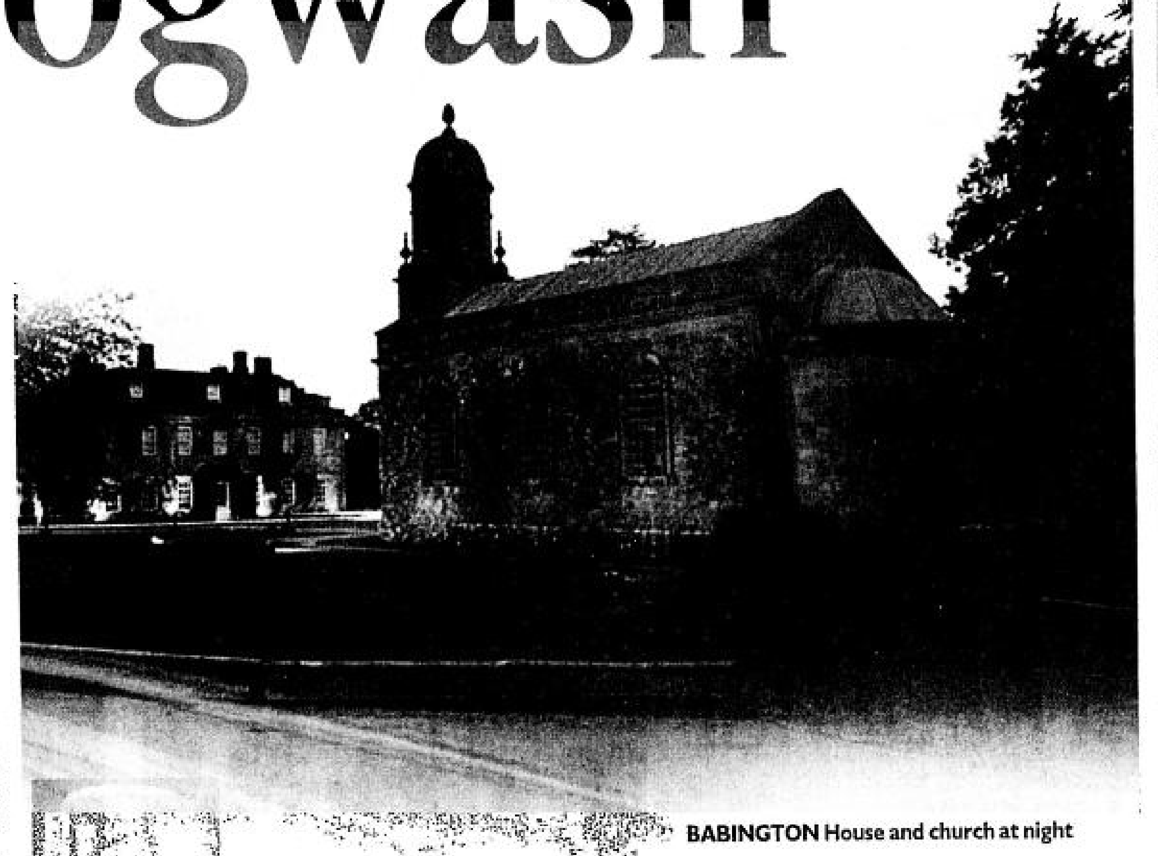
The right treatment

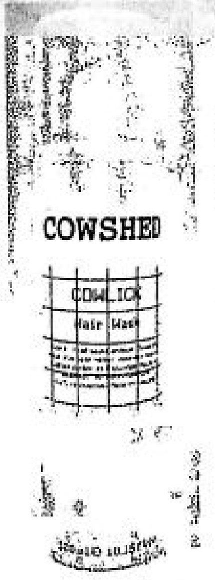
The current spa does not have treatment rooms laid out in a manner many of us are familiar with, that is, rooms lined up clinically along a corridor. Instead, freestanding log cabins serve as treatment rooms, individually decorated like the guest rooms. The therapeutic and rejuvenating treatments for men and women (including couples) carry the same humorous labels as Cowshed products available at retail. Aside from standard spa services like manicures, pedicures and self-tanning, guests can indulge in five facials, from Marhalika using thread to Bull's-Eye using acupressure and lymphatic drainage. There are nine types of massages such as the native American-inspired Stoned Cow that uses volcanic rocks and the rebalancing Pummeled Cow, four specialized foot treatments and wraps and scrubs using sea salt, organic yoghurt, coconut and honey. All spa treatments use both retail products and exclusively blended formulas used only at Babington House *(see sidebar)*. By far, the best and most efficient treatment yet is Cow Groom, a 50-minute beauty-in-a-flash treatment perfect for people either leaving Babington House for the city or simply a quick groom or maintenance for the time-strapped.

You recline on what looks like a custom-made barber's chair, but not without having your feet first scrubbed in a petal-infused tub of water. Two therapists give you a basic manicure and pedicure, foot and hand massage, an aromatic back and shoulder massage, facial and head massage, plus makeup application—treatments that together would usually take at least a whole afternoon at a salon.

Cowshed products were launched late last year in Hong Kong, and Cow Groom in particular, is what Flora Yiu of Veratec (distributor of Cowshed and other iconic, niche beauty products in Hong Kong) is keen on introducing to Hong Kong together with Soho House's chic dining experience similar to that of New York and London.

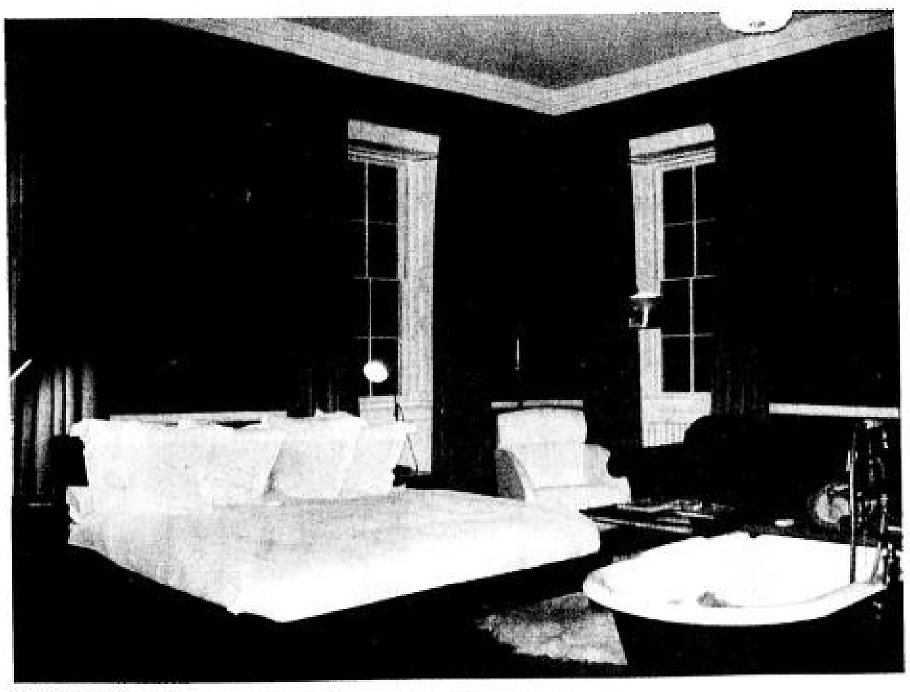
E-mail the author at kittygo_pdi@yahoo.com For more information, log on to www.babingtonhouse.co.uk


BABINGTON House and church at night



COWSHED Cowlick Hair Wash

MONGOLIAN yurt


BEDROOM

BATHROOM

RICHARD Howard

The perfumer of Babington House

MANY a beauty line, whether claiming to be natural and organic or high-tech, can trace their beginnings to a boardroom table or marketing study. Not Cowshed. The eight-year-old product line formulated by the team of perfumer Richard Howard is a business grown organically in more ways than one. Under the guidance of Babington House owner Nick Jones, the products have come to epitomize the lifestyle and vision of the Somerset countryside.

Most obvious to the brand's customers is the use of top quality, pure, natural ingredients. The products were originally formulated to cater to requirements of the hotel but like any organically grown business, their reputation spread to the point of retailing the goods albeit in select points of sale such as Barney's in America, Liberty, Heal's, Harvey Nichols and Fenwick in the UK, Fred Segal in Los Angeles and Lane Crawford in Hong Kong. Howard summarizes the brand as "part of the life environment in Babington House, the essence of (which is) captured in a bottle."

Howard, a former cook at a Buddhist monastery at Sri Lanka, applies his skills and acute sense for flavors in the kitchen to work in his laboratory, Arcania Apothecary.

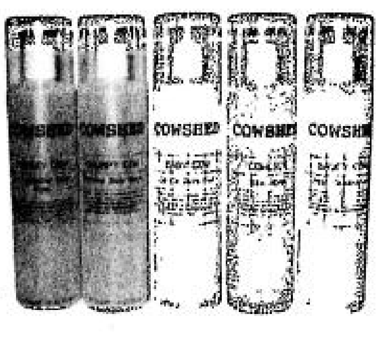
"When you come here, you want to have quality food which has a little of the 'Cowshed' quality where the chef really cares about where he buys his meat and the quality of produce he uses. That same philosophy was applied to the spa," he explained.

Cowshed skincare formulations, made of specially blended essential oils and herbal infusions, are mixed in buckets in an old-fashioned manner using an industrial-sized electric mixer. All products, whether used exclusively at the spa or sold at retail, are hand-packed and filled. He is aware that customers may have initially picked up Cowshed products because of their funny names—Horny Cow sensual massage oil, Grubby Cow facial cleanser, Grumpy Cow morning body wash to name a few—but the business has grown because many have made repeat purchases, having experienced the superior quality of the products.

Not one to be swayed by marketing reports, the latest products in the market, or trends that keep every brand chasing the dominant customer base, Howard develops certain products exclusively for use in the Cowshed spa at Babington House which are not available at retail and may never be.

"It will be difficult to imitate this because you need the heritage and strength of foundation to imitate exactly what we do," he confidently said, "We will always try to keep an edge and that little edge makes all the difference."

Cowshed products are available at Lane Crawford in Hong Kong or through Veratec HK at 852-21678889 or flora@veratecnet.com.



COWSHED product line

Businessman wins over P3M worth of 'preferred brands'

LEONCIO Gosiaco, a 38-year-old businessman, was the grand prize winner in the Citibank Preferred Brands Promo.

Gosiaco's prizes amounted to more than P3 million. It included brand-new Mercedes Benz C180 Kompressor and P100,000 worth of Shell fuel cards, Fujitsu Lifebook S6220, a Hewlett Packard iPAQ 3715 Pocket PC and a Samsung E800 mobile phone.

The businessman also got 43-inch Sony projection television, Panasonic Home Theater SC-HT-900 system and Apple iPod 40G with dock and Apple Care protection plan. He also won trips for two to Hong Kong via Cathay Pacific and the Canon Powershot Pro1 Digital Camera and Canon Pixma IP6000D photo printer.

The Citibank Preferred Brands promo gave cardholders the opportunity to win 10 exciting prizes from Asia's most preferred brands. Cardholders earned raffle entries by shopping using their card, getting cash advances, charging purchases to PayLite, enrolling utility accounts in Citibank 1Bill, applying for supplementary cards or transacting online.

The promo was inspired by Citibank's recent selection as the Most Preferred Bank, the best international brand in the bank/insurance/investment service category in the first annual Asia's Top 1,000 Brand Listing.

Child-care center and playground

DREAMSCAPE'S GBOX Kiddie Activity Center opens today, 3 p.m., at the 4/L of Robinsons Galleria.

GBOX Kiddie Activity Center is a modern and convenient child-care center inside Dreamscape. It offers a safe and nurturing environment where toddlers can play, socialize and learn.

Since it is located inside a fully air-conditioned amusement park, parents who work within the Ortigas area or even those who just need to run on some errands can conveniently and safely entrust their small ones to GBOX for some time. Kids will be provided with the best possible care and assistance by a trained team of professional caregivers and English-proficient teachers who are college degree holders.

Operated by JAS Leisure and Amusement, Inc., the same company that brought Playbox inside Dream Zone at Robinsons Place Manila, GBOX Kiddie Activity Center was conceptualized to help children in the various phases of their physical, mental and social development.

It offers the widest array of quality and first-class learning and play equipment and materials. These include the bridge tunnel for crawling, climbing and slide balancing; basketball ring for enhancing kids' motor skills and eye coordination; riding toys for promoting strength, balance and speed; and the vestibular ball for training directional concepts, among others.

There are also educational toys like pegboards, building blocks and stackables. These toys were carefully selected to enhance the children's problem-solving ability and creativity, while they learn basic concepts like size, shape and color.

GBOX Kiddie Activity Center is designed with child-size furniture for activities like drawing, writing and cutting. There are also musical instruments for the early development of creative appreciation, as well as play stations and educational video presentations for interactive fun and learning.

A Book Lovers Corner aims to instill the value of reading and learning, while a play house, complete with dolls and fixtures, helps to inspire role-playing and cultivates the values of caring and sharing.

Rates per child are at P100, P120 and P250 for 30 minutes, 1 hour and unlimited playtime, respectively. Each child is entitled to one adult chaperone while inside the play area.

Call 6362911 or 6317329 (office hours) or 6317594 (weekends and holidays).

SUMMER ACTIVITIES
@ the Knowledge & Learning Centre

In celebration of our 25th anniversary, British Council's Knowledge and Learning Centre (KLC) lines up a series of summer activities for children aged 7-16 years old.

Reading Shakespeare
An introduction to Shakespeare's Classics
14-16 years old
18-22 April 2005 (1:00 - 4:00 PM)
Facilitated by Ani Rosa Almario of Adarna Publishing House

Acting Shakespeare
A teens' theatre workshop
14-16 years old
25-29 April 2005 (1:00 - 4:00 PM)
Facilitated by Ana Valdes-Lim of Philippine Playhouse

Arts Mania
An arts and crafts workshop
8-13 years old
2-6 May 2005 (1:00 - 4:00 PM)
Facilitated by Ilustrador ng Kabataan

Reading Clinic
A workshop to enhance children's reading skills
7-9 years old
9-13 May 2005 (1:00 - 4:00 PM)
Facilitated by Bing Balayon of De La Salle University

Workshop fee: P3,500. First come, first served. Limited slots available. For more information and reservations please call 9141011 to 14 or visit www.britishcouncil.org.ph. The British Council is located at the 10th Floor, Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City

BRITISH COUNCIL
Philippines
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loaded with San Miguel food and beverage products.
Every P200 purchase inclusive of a 1.5 Liter bottle
of any Coca-Cola product in a single receipt
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So hurry and visit your favorite
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The new GE Platinum CleanSteel
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We Deliver! Dial 633-MEAT (633-6328). Available in GMA only.
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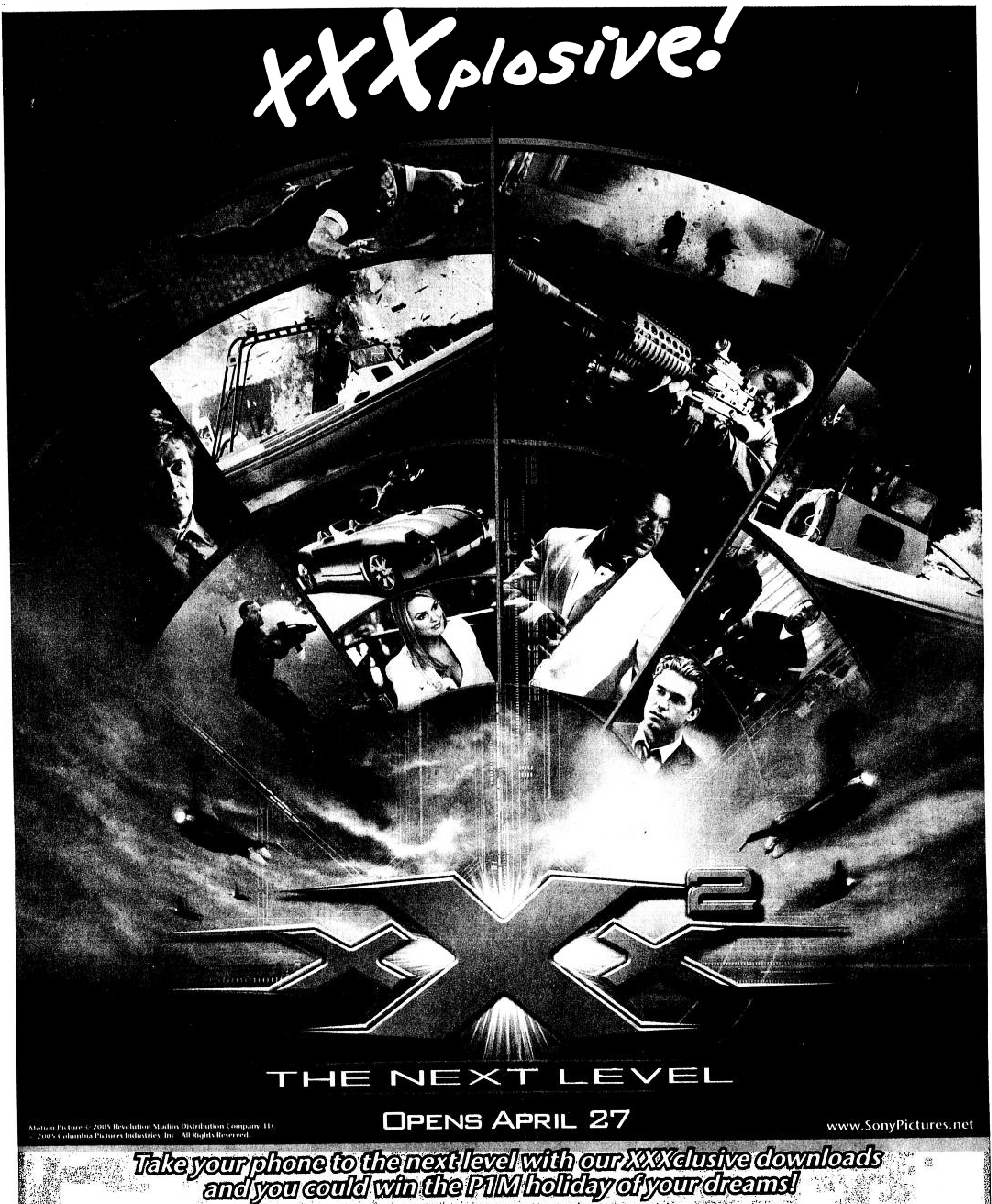
Per DTI NCR Permit no. 1353 Series of 2005.
For more information, visit us at www.montereyfoods.com.
See posters for more details.

Monterey Meatshop Directory: Las Piñas: R&E Building, Doña Manuela cor. Ilang-Ilang, Manuela Subd., CV Star St. Unit 1 Star Arcade Philam Life Village Pamplona, Lot 10 Block 16 BF Resort Drive corner Gemma Cruz Street, Beside Mapayapa Village Gate, Naga Road. Makati: Citiland Tower, Pasong Tamo, Estrera Building, JP Rizal Street (fronting Makati City Hall), Evangelista cor Gen. Lacuna Streets, Brgy. Bangkal. Malabon: G/F Star J Complex Gov. F. Sevilla Road Mandaluyong: Jeepney Park, EDSA Central Ave. EDSA Central. Manila: G/F Mabini Wing, Harrison Plaza, Malate. 1650 Laon Laan cor. Don Quijote St. Sampaloc. 1020 Singalong cor San Andres Malate. 633 Carvajal St., Binondo. 1199 Masangkay St. Tondo. Marikina: 65 Bayanbayanan Ave., River City Arcade, Marikina Heights. Muntinlupa: Soldiers Hills, Putatan. Pasig: Unit F San Rafael Street corner West Capitol Drive. Parañaque: Magdalena Arcade Gatchalian Subdivision Sucat. Doña Juliana Bldg., Marcelo Green Village. Doña Soledad, Better- living. 2165 Narra Avenue United Hills. 99-A San Antonio Ave., San Antonio Valley I, Sucat. 20 Montserat, Phase I BF Homes Subd., Sucat, Lopez-Sucat, Merville Supermarket Complex, Carmelite Street, Merville. Quezon City: 355 Katipunan Road Loyola Heights, Don Graciano Bldg., E. Rodriguez Ave., 9-C Examiner Street West Triangle. 355-D Luxury Townhomes, Cullat, T. Sora cor. Cenacle Dr. Interville 2, Ermin Garcia St., Cubao. 24-C Shorthorn Street, Proj. 8. 45 Anonas Ext. cor. Madasalin St., Sikatuna Village. 17 Don Antonio Arcade, Brgy. Holy Spirit. Filinvest Road I cor. Davao Drive, Batasan Hills. 59 Visayas Ave., Proj. 6. 40 Granada Street Brgy. Valencia New Manila. Phase 8 Blk M Farmers Market Araneta Center, Cubao. 102 Livly Bldg. Dahlia Avenue Fairview. Beside Tierra Bella Village Gate, Tandang Sora Avenue. G/F City Square Bldg. N.S. Amoranto Ave.(Retiro) cor. Cordillera St., Rizal: Melendrez Street corner Ortigas Ext. Palmera Homes 5, Taytay. 17 B. Manahan St. Ampid San Mateo. Market Road, Batong Dalig San Juan, Taytay. F. Manalo Street, Antipolo. Unishoppe Supermarket Quezon Avenue, Angono. San Juan: 58 Grant Street Little Baguio. 193 Jasper Building Wilson Street. Batangas: 47 Rizal cor. P.Burgos Sts., National Highway. Kumintang Ilaya, Stall # 3 V. Malabanan Street Lipa City. A. Mabini Street (Public Market Area) Tanauan. Cavite: 524 Nueno St., Imus. JP Rizal St., Silang. Dasmariñas Central Mkt.. 103 Don Placido Campos Avenue, Dasmariñas. 72 National Road Binakayan, Kawit. Monterey Meatplant, Brgy. Langkaan, Dasmariñas. Laguna: 42 JP Rizal Street Cabuyao. 569 Sto. Domingo Road, Mayapa, Calamba. 161 N. Tobias St., Sta. Cruz, G. Reder St., Siniloan, Sta. Rosa Country Market, Sta. Rosa, Pacita Avenue, San Pedro, Goodwill Supermarket, National Highway,Sambat, Brgy. Binan, Quezon: 74 Quezon Avenue Gulang-gulang Lucena. 192 Arias Bldg. Merchant Street cor. Evangelista St. Bgy IX-Lucena. Bulacan: El Camino Road, Sto. Niño Meycauyan, 42 Peso Street St. Michael Subdivision Meycauyan. Ilocos Norte: JP Rizal corner Llanes Sts., Ilocos Sur: 22 Leona Florentino Street Vigan. Tuguegarao: c/o Maritons Supermarket, Don Domingo Road, La Union: Cafe Esperanza, Gen.Luna St. cor. P.Torres St., San Fernando. Pampanga: 541 Sto. Rosario St., Angeles City. Fields Avenue, Balibago corner McArthur Hiway, Dolores San Fernando. Pangasinan: Nancayasan Urdaneta, Brgy. Lucao Dagupan. Benguet: #1 Harrison Rd., Baguio City. Bacolod: 86 North Drive corner BS Aquino Drive. Iloilo: #7 Javellana Street, La Paz Plaza, La Paz. Cebu: Basak corner Pagsabungan Streets Mandaue City. 955-O Salinas Dr., Lahug. 55 M. Velez Street Guadalupe. Unit I Preestar Arcade, Hernan Cortes Street, Mandaue City. F. Llamas Street, Punta Princesa Labangon. GLG Bldg. (across USC Talamban) Nasipit, Talamban. Estenzo Bldg.,M.L.Quezon Ave., Cabancalan, Mandaue. Dumaguete: La Residencia Almar Bldg. San Juan St. corner Rizal Blvd. Lee Plaza Mall Dagacay. Ormoc: 705 Osmeña Ext., Don Felipe Larrazabal Avenue. Tacloban: 175 Avenida Veteranos, Rizal corner P.Burgos Sts. Catbalogan: Caybalogan Shell Station, del Rosario Compound. Borongan: Units 8&9, Market Area. Limbauan St. Tagbilaran: CPG North Avenue. Bukidnon: Judge Carillo cor. Tablos Streets Malaybalay. Cagayan de Oro: 75 Tomas Saco St. Macasandig. 68 RN Abejuela St., Divisoria. Puerto, National Hi way, Iraya. Carmen. Iligan: 0125A Masonic Lodge Bldg., Quezon Ave. Ext., Palao. Davao: Matina Pangi Road, (beside Centro Supermarket). Ozamiz: Rizal Avenue corner Bonifacio Street. Surigao: Amat corner Servida Sts.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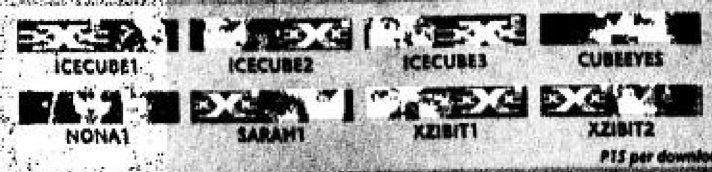
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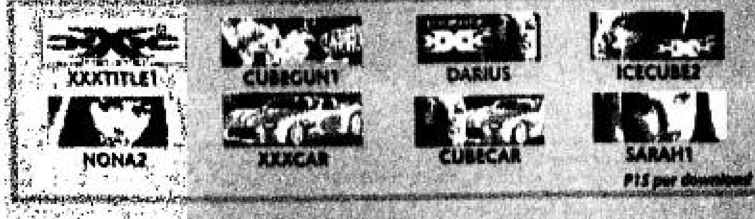
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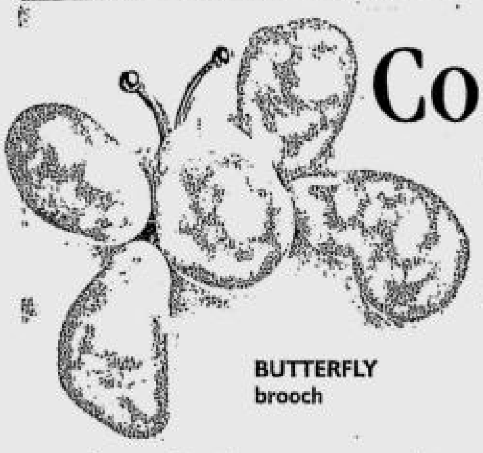

BUTTERFLY brooch

Compassion on auction

By Anne A. Jambora

An invitational charity event at the Westin Philippine Plaza hopes to raise P1 million for Unicef through an auction of choice items

AN AUCTION for all seasons will be staged by The Westin Philippine Plaza with partner airlines and magazine publications in "Seasons," an invitational gala charity on April 14 at the

COMPASSION/E3

PATRICE Ramos-Diaz creation

Introducing CLINIQUE Happy To Be... A New Expression in Fragrance

An exuberant fragrance that is a celebration of who you are and your strong sense of self. **CLINIQUE Happy To Be** captures the essence of happiness when manifested through confidence, contentment and the empowering rush of emotion when bold enough to act spontaneously. The uplifting scent, when sprayed on mimics the energizing affect of a confidence boost for any woman who wears **Happy To Be**.

Happy To Be is a new type of floral. It debuts a mixture of lush, wet notes, sparkling florals with an unexpected dash of creamy softness. The juxtaposition of crisp, vibrant notes with a sensual softness is a surprising and delightful contrast. **Happy To Be** satisfies a new taste...a taste that craves fun and spontaneity.

Amusing yet sophisticated, **Happy To Be**, is a modern fragrance that blends layers and textures like that of fashion forward mixing of stripes, checks and plaids. The initial impression is luscious and dewy with Pear Natureprint ™ providing a crisp nuance. The petally floral heart contains the most beautiful facets of Hibiscus Flower, Bulgarian Rose and Syringa flower for a sparkling effect giving way to a surprising softness with a blend of cocoa butter, a creamy nuance, along with sandalwood and sesame for an added degree of refinement.

CLINIQUE Happy To Be is poured into a simple glass spray bottle, which is winsomely decorated with a free-style handwritten "Happy To Be" signature in variations of bright orange tones signifying the individuality and personal aspect of the scent. A burnt orange cap tops off the amusing flacon.

ADVT.

New Clinique Happy To Be.™

A new expression in fragrance.

Meet a different kind of floral: Dewy. Shimmering. Spontaneous. Liking who you are, where you are. Happy To Be.

New Clinique Happy To Be Perfume Spray, 100ml, ₱3,400; 50ml, ₱2,300.

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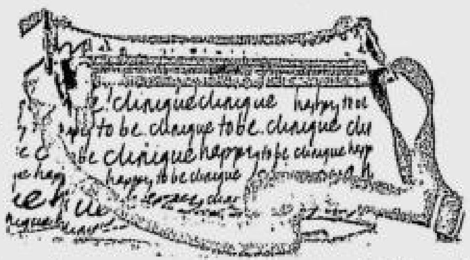

Clinique Happy Bonus Gift
From April 11 – 27, 2005

Receive a Happy To Be Pouch with your ₱3,000 purchase, inclusive of a Happy To Be fragrance in a single receipt.

One to a customer, please.

Exclusively at:

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Beauty bar
Level 1, Glorietta 2, Ayala Center, Makati
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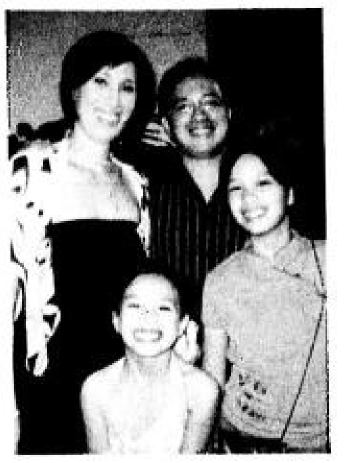
- Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1753, Series of 2005.

PLAY and music family of Gymboree

BABY shower of Ellen Lacson and her family


24/7 family Janine and Teddy Dario with daughters Chiara and Gabrielle

Joy and stress in the last stretch

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

JUST as excitement and anxiety build up a month before one's wedding day, I am entering my last month of pregnancy filled with both exhilaration and stress.

Of course, there are marked differences in a bride's and expectant mother's weights—unless one is doing the "modern" thing by accomplishing both events simultaneously. For both women though, there is that inner glow, causing them to beam with joy.

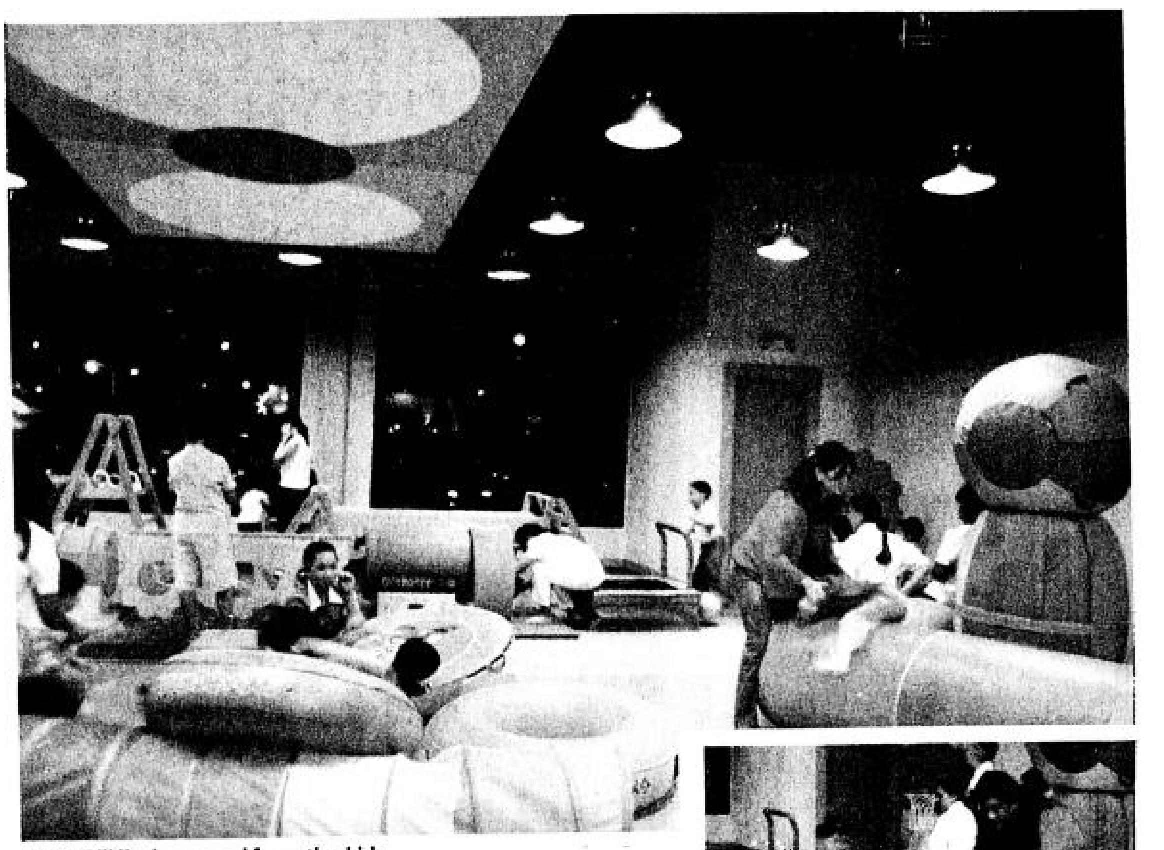
I consider myself a devout Catholic, but I can't help following Chinese beliefs for pregnant women, such as not moving house and not buying anything for the baby earlier than the seventh month of pregnancy. I guess it's my exposure to feng shui from my interior design work that somehow influences my thinking.

Because of that procrastination, panic suddenly sets in. There is an amazingly long list of baby items to get and a nursery room that needs to be done. Worse, I have just a month left to organize everything.

Here's a suggestion to my entrepreneurial readers. If there are wedding planners, then why not baby planners that can assist with nursery renovations, baby shopping, even reminders about doctor visits?

Nothing of my last baby's stuff has been kept, for it has been more than seven years since Annika was born. Besides, my pack rat genes cannot compete with my shopping DNA. With new-generation designs for everything baby-related, from strollers to baby clothes to car seats, I am quite excited to exercise my plastic cards: swipe, swipe, swipe! Ten more reps!

> I am entering my last month of pregnancy filled with both exhilaration and anxiety—but who's complaining?


COLORFUL playground for active kids

Colorful play area

Seeing the colorful play area of the new Gymboree at the Filinvest Corporate Center in Alabang got me even more excited for baby Athena's arrival this May. Last week, lovable third-time mommy **Sharon Cuneta Pangilinan** cut the ribbon to open this creative center that incorporates music and play into carefully-crafted programs.

The play programs start from birth to four years, while music classes start at 6 months and art classes at 18 months. With infants experiencing gentle play, songs and sensory stimulation, I think it's also a way for mothers to socialize with other ladies who are still not ready to face their other friends until they have lost all the unwanted fat from pregnancy.

It's great to be "in the same boat," able to discuss similar experiences and plan when to start hitting the gym after the Gymboree.

All this anxiety over the remaining month has caused my insomnia to worsen. It has been getting more and more difficult to find the perfect position to rest my protruding, big belly. I have watched all the different 2 a.m. shows—reality TV replays such as "Amazing Race" and "Fear Factor," all the cities of "CSI:" Las Vegas, Miami and New York. Even "The Apprentice" has become part of my channel surfing list at 3 a.m!

I was tuned to CNN at exactly the time the Holy Father, **Pope John Paul II,** passed away. I was deeply saddened and was crying at 5:30 in the morning. I find myself still drawn to the coverage—from the amazing views of St. Peter's to interviews of the world's political dignitaries to shots of laymen lining up for hours to get a glimpse of the Pontiff, and finally to the spiritual, solemn burial rites where one of the Prayers of the Faithful was read in Tagalog.

This has been such a monumental event that even the royal wedding of Prince **Charles** to **Camilla Parker Bowles** has been moved back by a day. This sad couple can't seem to escape controversy. I think, if they were Chinese, their wedding would be cancelled altogether, surrounded as it is by bad feng shui.

GUESTS of honor Sen. Kiko Pangilinan and his wife, Sharon Cuneta

GYMBOREE Alabang owners Jackie Aquino, Ann Tan, Mikee Jaworski, Joy Lagdameo and Baba Arroyo

Truly Pinoy

During one of my late-night surfing safaris, I caught an episode of "Oprah" featuring different women in their 30s from all over the world. Interestingly, the women from Brazil seem to like butt enhancement (that being the land of thong bikinis), the ones from Cuba seem to average about three divorces (the legal cost is less than $10) and Kuwaiti women seem to be the richest in the world (literally swimming in petrodollars).

Comparing women from several nations, the most inspiring figure was the one from war-torn and genocide-stricken Rwanda, who survived being raped and managed to stay alive as military insurgents killed off most of the women in her village.

FUN relatives Luis Asuncion and mom Nanette and Cowboy Santos

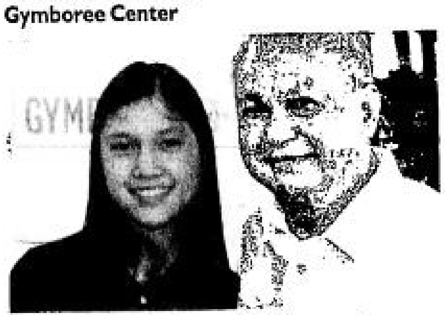
NOCTURNAL gang Jed Dario, Quad de la Paz and Tanya Moreno

NOKIA team. Cristina Trinidad, Jill Lizardo, GM Parikshit Bhasin and Luanne Erni

The Philippines was also featured, with pretty Angel Aquino saying that Filipino women like to eat and socialize during *merienda*. It was disappointing to watch that segment, though, because it didn't show anything truly Pinoy. In fact, Angel talked about how many branches of Starbucks there are in the country!

I know Starbucks makes a good brew, but this could have been a great chance to show Pinays eating *puto* or lounging in the sands of Boracay or even shopping in Divisoria—anything with a homegrown flavor instead of showing America that we are basically a US suburb, except with brown skin.

INQUIRER boss Sandy Romualdez at the Gymboree Center


PROUD dad Joker Arroyo with daughter Baba

Perfect choice

Being such a nighttime person, I was a perfect choice as one of the hosts for the Nokia 24/7 Nocturnal Awards organized by hip couple **Teddy** and **Janine Dario,** recently held at the Manila Polo Club.

The event awarded the different nightspots, bars and restaurants in the city and honored the late **Bibot Amador** for the legacy she left behind in the theater world.

Her niece, stage and TV actress **Pinky Amador,** is actively promoting Repertory Philippines with its ongoing play "Whose Wife Is It Anyway?" which runs until April 24 at Rep's Globe Theater in Onstage at Greenbelt 1. I am so glad there is new blood to bring back the glory days of Repertory. This city can use all the culture it can get!

As I hosted the Nocturnal Awards, I jokingly protested as **Tweety de Leon** won the texters' choice for their favorite 24/7 cover girl (I was on their December issue). Tweety also won the Nokia Nocturnal Style Award and brought home a new Nokia 7260.

If I only knew there was going to be such a fabulous prize, I would have asked all my friends to text in, just to win that phone!

As my late nights are now glued to the Masters golf tournament, I am thinking about how fast I can get back in shape and start playing golf. It's the perfect thought, as I head to the refrigerator weighing which snack to eat at 5 a.m!

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

INQ7 boss Paolo Prieto and Phoemela Barranda

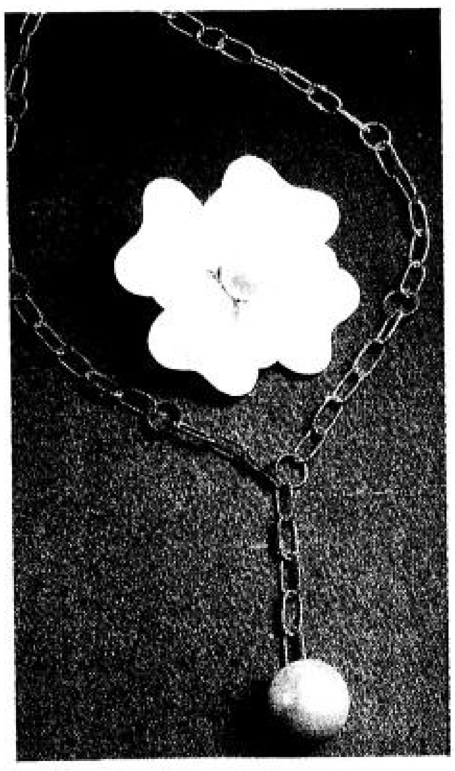
REPERTORY Philippines artists Charlie Barredo and Pinky Amador

TALL fashion moms Tweety de Leon and Romina Gonzalez

HIP Nokia guests Robert Dario and Kirsty Butler

PILATES instructor Maritina Romulo and Angel Jacob

SPORTY girls Jessica Rodriguez and Dyan Castillejo



FLOWER brooch and 18K yellow Italian gold chain with champagne South Sea pearl

Y-LARIAT with diamond and pearl

Compassion on auction

From page E1

biggest and newest fully air-conditioned tent venue in the metropolis, The Westin's 2,100-sq-m Harbor Garden.

Over 500 guests are expected to attend this charity event that hopes to raise at least P1 million for the United Nations' Children's Fund (Unicef).

"We wanted to collaborate with a group or company with the same vision as The Westin, so we thought of a social benefit for the Unicef," says Rose Libongco, director for sales and marketing, The Westin Philippine Plaza.

As part of the Starwood Hotels and Resorts, The Westin has actually been supporting the Unicef through the years through Stargift, a charitable program for children where Starwood Preferred Guests could donate online.

Formative years

This time, however, The Westin takes its benevolent thrust further by organizing an auction with Lifestyle Asia, Metro Society, People Asia, Cathay Pacific Airways, Gulf Air, KLM-Air France and Lufthansa German Airlines.

Dale Rutstein, director of communication of the Unicef, says the money raised in "Seasons" will be specifically targeted to fund nutrition for children's formative years, from 0-3 years old. Since 98 percent of the brain is developed in this crucial stage, he says the amount of invest-

COMPASSION/ E4

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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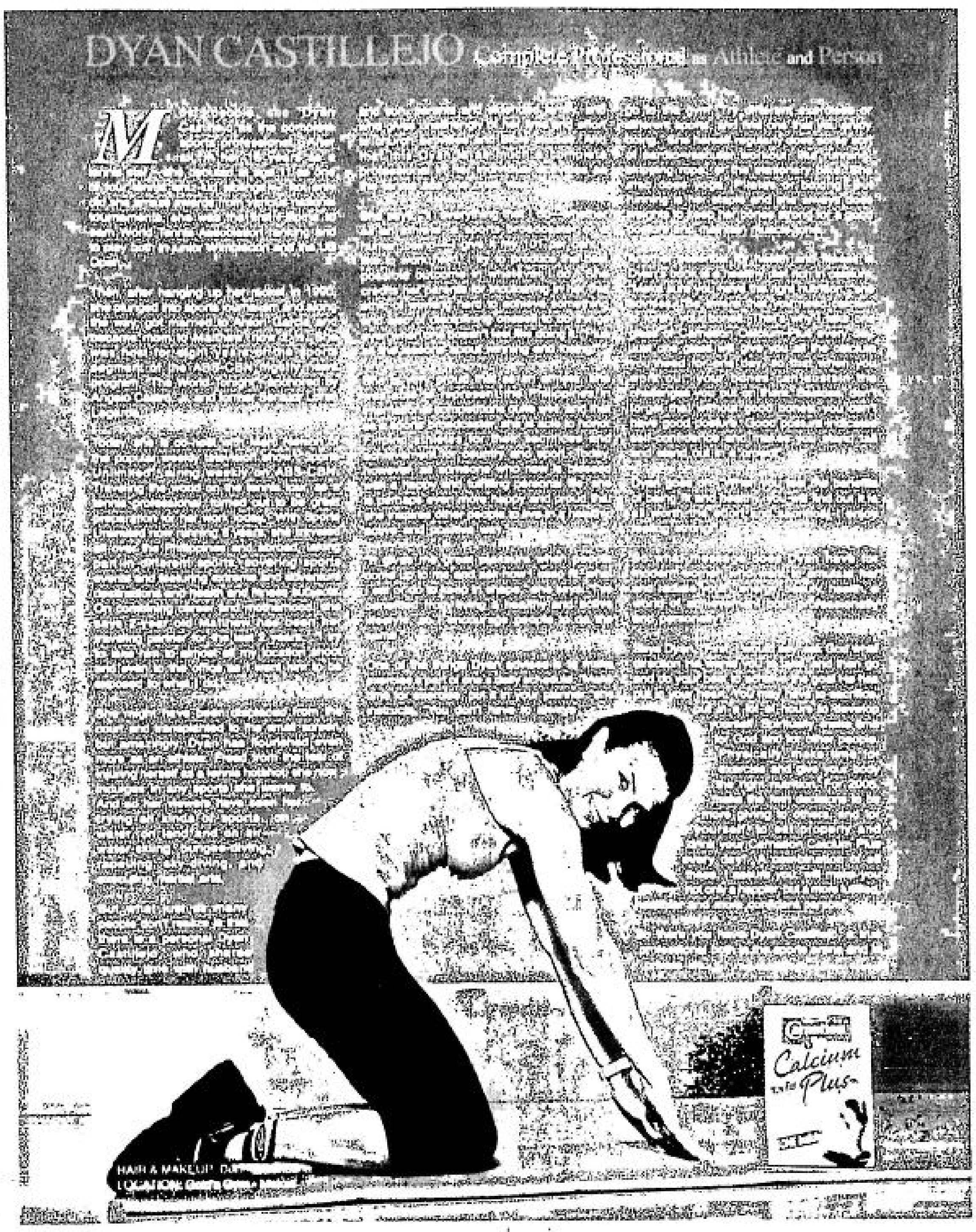
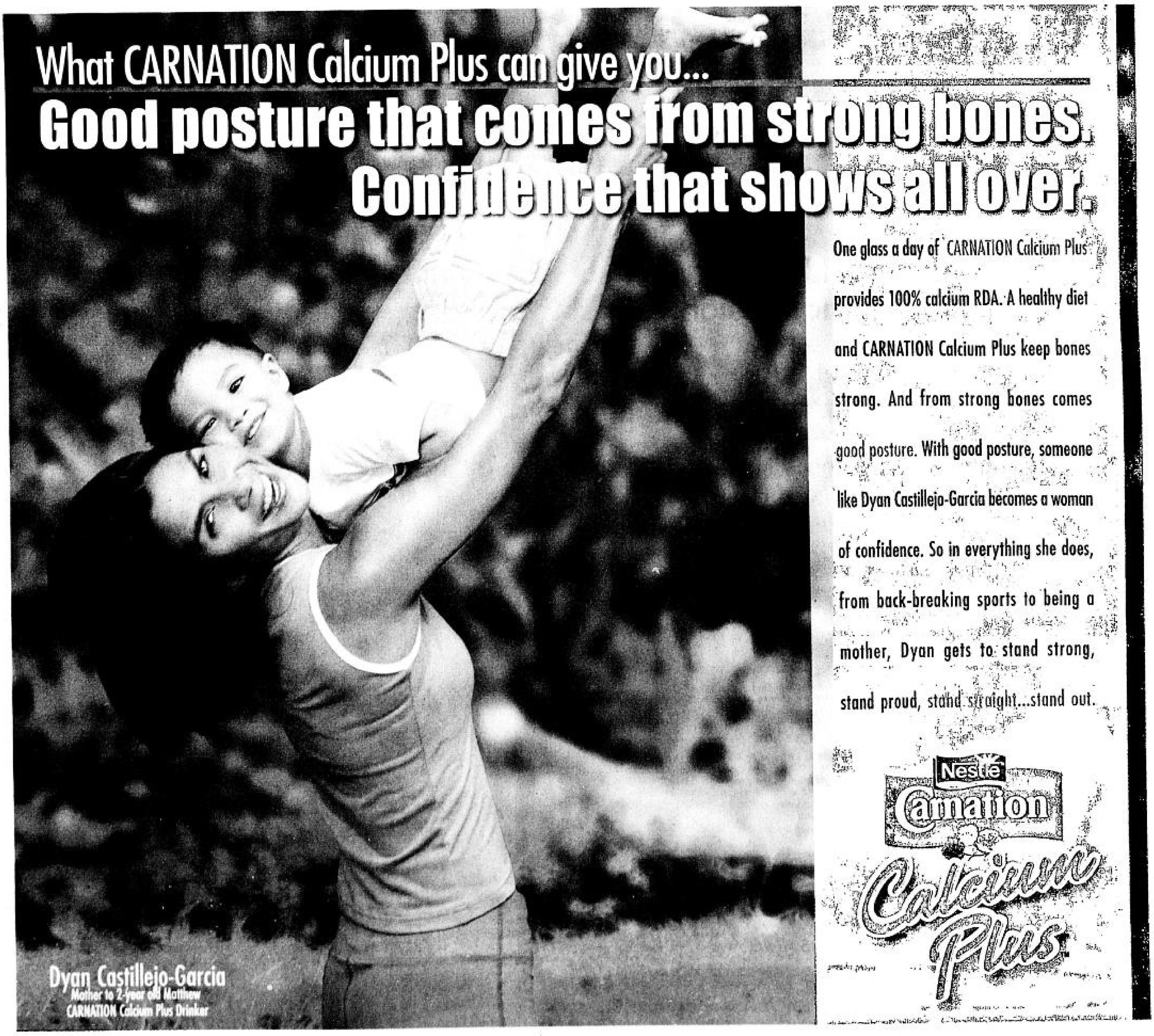

DYAN CASTILLEJO Complete Professional as Athlete and Person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Confidence that shows all over.

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Dyan Castillejo-Garcia
Mother to 2-Year old Matthew
CARNATION Calcium Plus Drinker

Nestlé Carnation Calcium Plus

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Compassion on auction

From page E1

biggest and newest fully air-conditioned tent venue in the metropolis, The Westin's 2,100-sq-m Harbor Garden.

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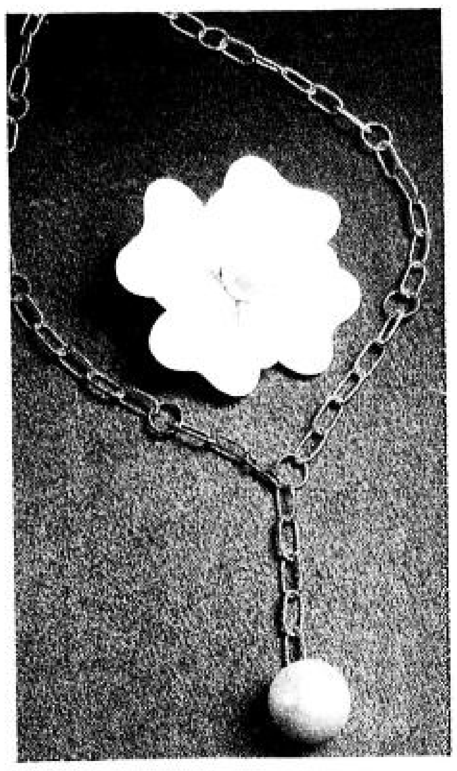
COMPASSION/ E4



FLOWER brooch and 18K yellow Italian gold chain with champagne South Sea pearl

Y-LARIAT with diamond and pearl

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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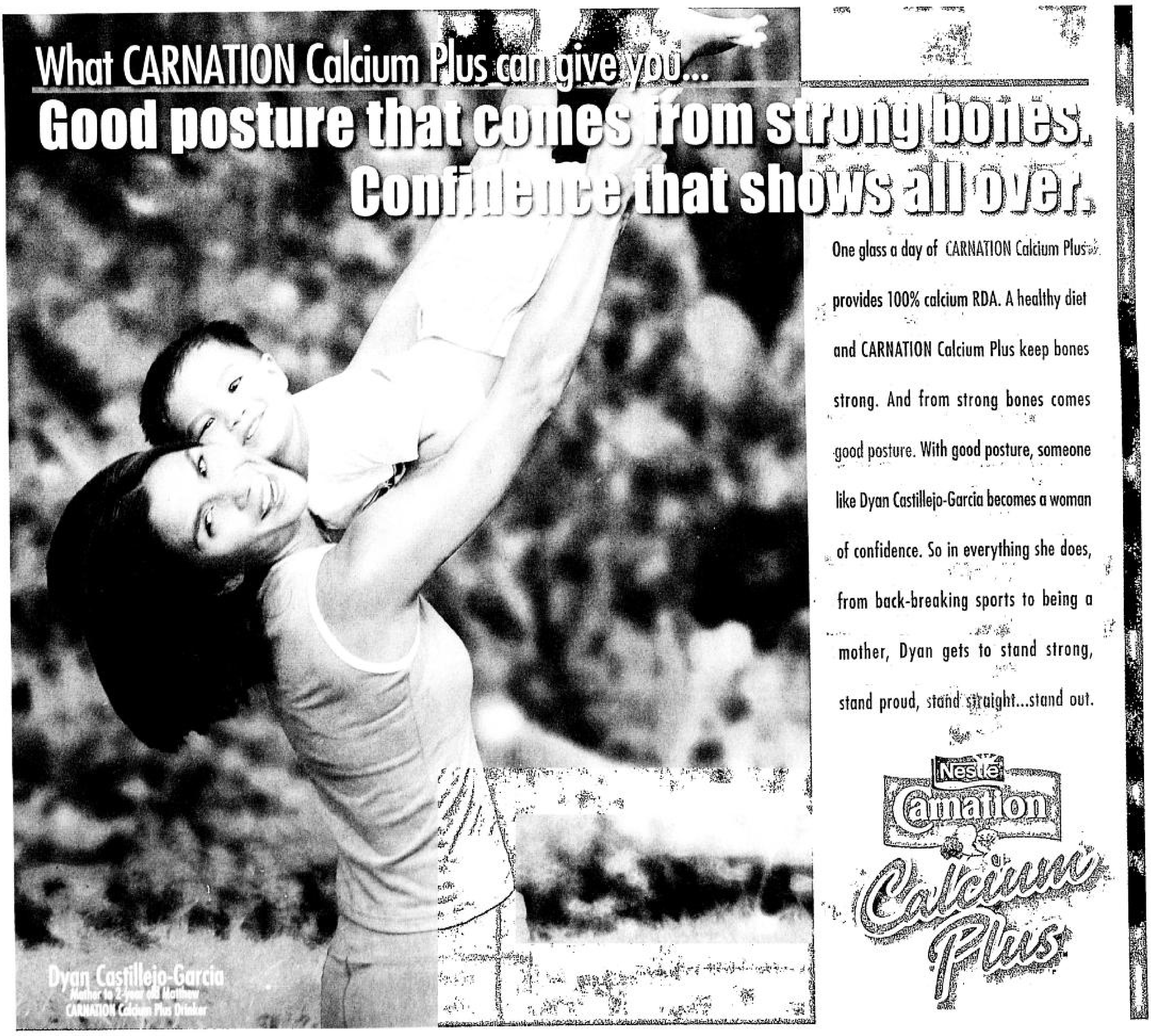
DYAN CASTILLEJO
M
Calcium Plus
HAIR & MAKE-UP. D
LOCATION


What CARNATION Calcium Plus can give you...
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Confidence that shows all over.
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Mother to 2-year old Matthew
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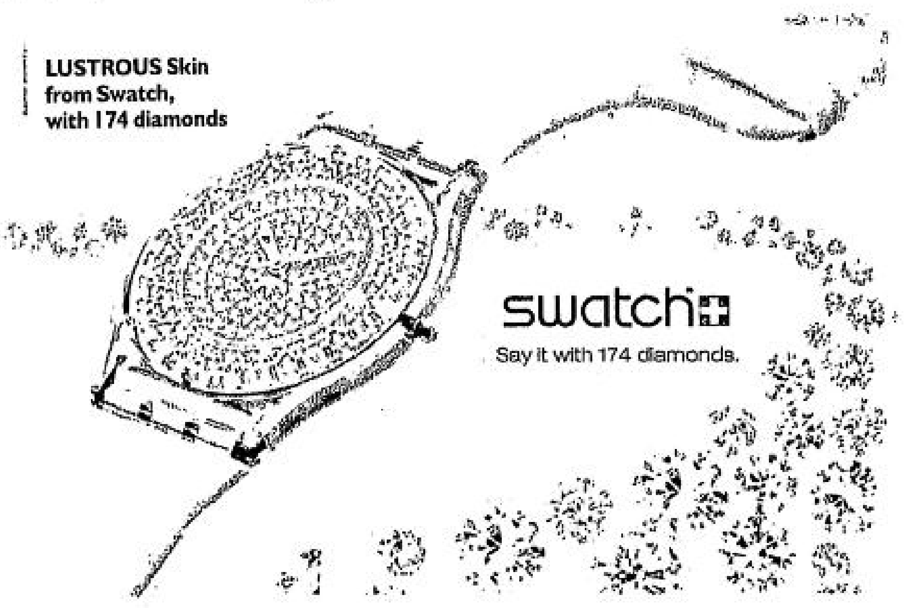


LUSTROUS Skin from Swatch, with 174 diamonds

Compassion on auction

From page E3

ment will certainly go a long way. The Unicef is funded entirely by voluntary contributions.

"By promoting an active and engaged mind and through proper nutrition, we can actually change the way a child grows for a lifetime," Rustein says.

The Unicef, continues Rutstein, starts protecting children even before they are born. And while they have other programs that run all the way into the teen years focusing on health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education and assistance during emergencies, he believes developing a solid foundation will reap lifetime benefits for the children.

"All the money will be spent in the most appropriate and sustainable ways," he says.

Up for grabs are a gamut of items to be presented by themes—Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter—from airline dream destinations such as Paris, London, Munich and Sydney with luxurious hotel accommodations courtesy of Starwood Hotels and Resorts, to local trips for two courtesy of Philippine Airlines to Cebu, Davao, Boracay and Palawan.

There will also be unique pearl creations from Jewelmer complementing the four seasons; artworks by Manuel Baldemor, Bernie Pacquing, Alfredo Aquilizan (courtesy of The Drawing Room Contemporary Art Gallery) and Impy Pilapil; fashion creations by Rajo Laurel, Patrice Ramos-Diaz and Kate Torralba;

Collectible Swatch products from Gift Gate, including the Swatch Skin with 174 diamonds that retails for P68,000; the latest techno gadgets from Hewlett-Packard such as digital cameras, laptops and Ipaqs; fashion accessories and scents from international design labels from Stores Specialists Inc.; the latest cell phones from Globe Telecom; and so much more.

Silent bidding

Libongco says that more items are still being offered for the auction. The most expensive entry is a glass sculpture from Pilapil, which starts at P300,000. Those bidding for the exclusive designer clothes will have the clothes especially tailor-made for them.

Unicef ambassador of goodwill Gary Valenciano will be serenading guests together with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, while Manila toastmaster Johnny Litton will be the master of auction and ceremonies.

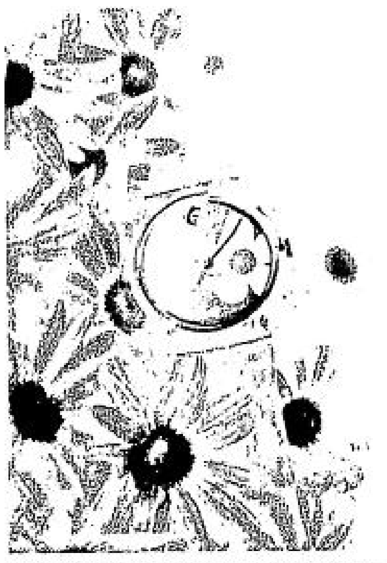
The silent, state-of-the-art online bidding will be powered by Intel Centrino with Hewlett-Packard. Upon registration, guests will be given ID numbers. They can then view an item for auction on two separate screens, and current bids on two other screens.

Runway mannequins will transport wireless computer stations to the bidders. Successive bidders need only enter their ID numbers and press a button to increase a bid. Upon conclusion of the bid, Litton will announce the winner whose name will now appear on screen.

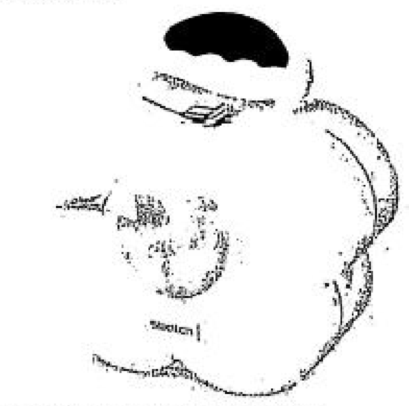
As a bonus, all bidders will automatically qualify for the electronic raffle of the king-sized The Westin Heavenly Bed.

Payment must be made on the day itself, either through cash, credit card or check. Receipts will be issued by the Unicef, who will also deliver items to winners should they prefer.

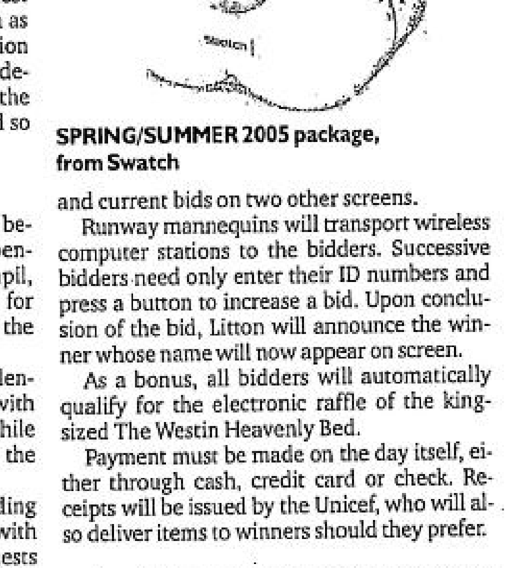
E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph



SPRING/SUMMER 2005 Five-Petal Joy, from Swatch



SPRING/SUMMER 2005 package, from Swatch



PAINTING by Alfredo Aquilizan, top; dress by Patrice Ramos-Diaz, right; Kate Torralba creation, left

Sunday LIFESTYLE Weddings

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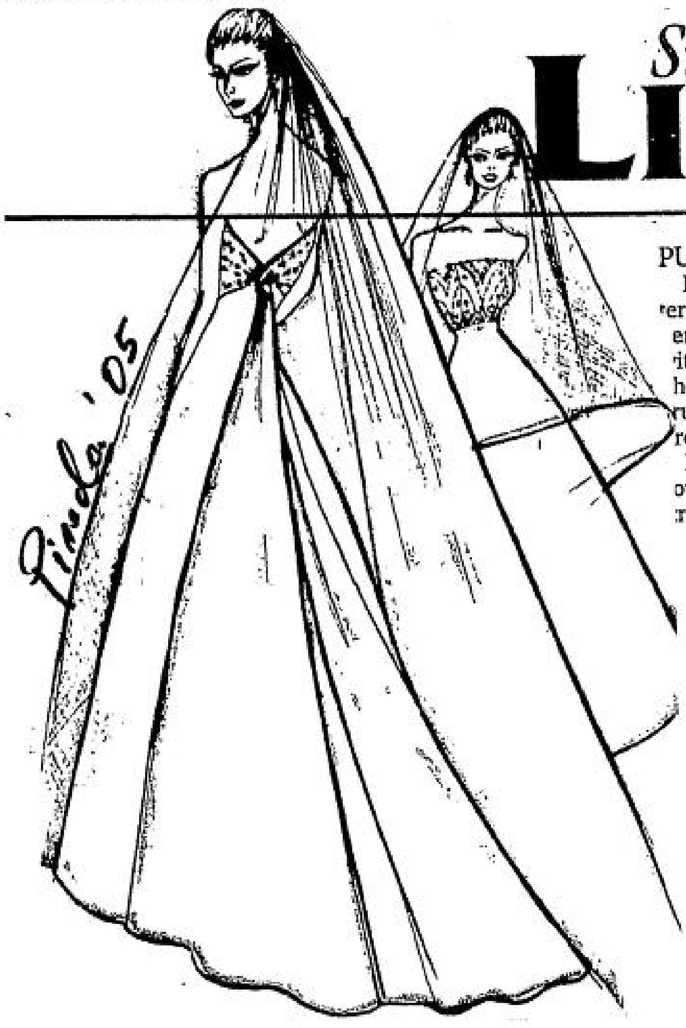

PULIDO-HERMOGENES

Michelle Hermogenes, daughter of **Celso** and **Araceli Hermogenes**, will exchange marital vows ith **Arnold Pulido** on April 16, at he Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The ruth and The Life, Reclamation rea, Pasay City.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's own in ivory duchess satin. The rapless bodice is embellished with seed pearls, caviar and borealis beads and rhinestones. The back panel is draped and twisted leading to a chapel train. A 10-meter veil of double-width illusion tulle held by floral-shaped Swarovski crystal pins completes the ensemble.

Hair and makeup will be done by **Patrick Rosas**. Reception will follow at the Coconut Palace, CCP Complex, Manila.

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

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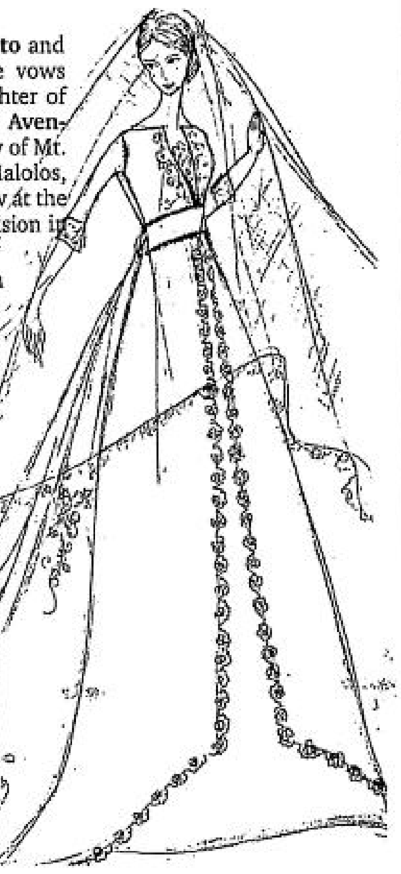
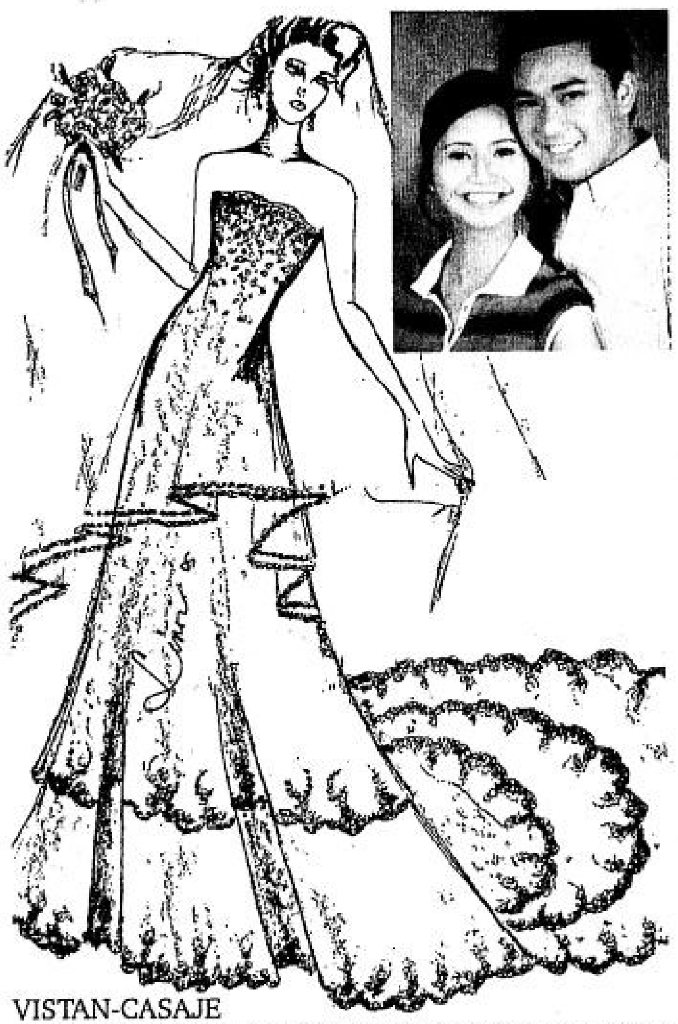
RAMOS-AVENDAÑO

Fidel Ramos, son of **Donato** and **Luisa Ramos**, will exchange vows with **Grace Avendaño**, daughter of **Florentino** and **Felicidad Avendaño**, on April 14 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Barasoain Church, Malolos, Bulacan. Reception will follow at the Clubhouse Goldridge Subdivision in Tabang, Guiguinto, Bulacan.

The bride will wear an ecru duchess-satin gown, which features a classic silhouette of a bateau neckline overcoat. A handmade headpiece of beads will hold her long lace-trimmed veil design by **Junel Lim Gallon**. The entourage will wear gowns in canary-yellow motif.





VISTAN-CASAJE

Jocell Aimee Vistan, daughter of the late mayor of Plaridel, Bulacan, **Jamie Vistan**, and Mayor **Anastacia Vistan**, will tie the knot with **Rogelio Casaje Jr.**, son of **Rogelio** and **Luciana Casaje**, at Our Lady of Remedies Chapel, Clarkfield, Pampanga, on April 17. Reception will be at the Grand Ballroom of Holiday Inn, Clarkfield. The bride will wear a fully beaded princess-cut bustier gown with Swarovski cyrstals by **Linoi**.

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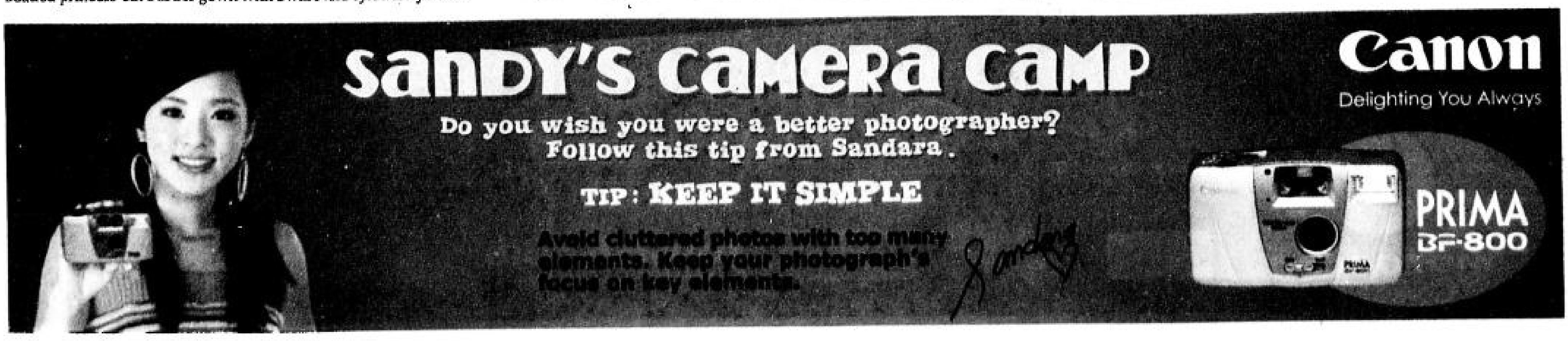
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Visionary gets skullcap from Pope

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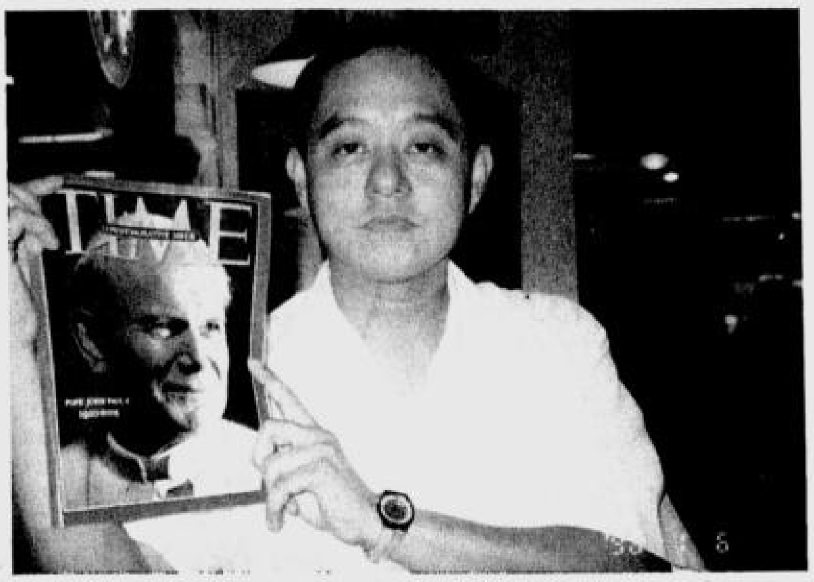

FILIPINO visionary and healer Carmelo Cortez keeps the skullcap of John Paul II on exhibit at the Mother of the Eucharist and Grace Chapel.

POPE John Paul II during his 1995 Philippine visit

FILIPINO visionary and healer Carmelo Cortez talked to Pope John Paul II during a private audience in 1995 when he went to the Vatican with the Executive Band headed by the late Sen. Raul Manglapus to play for the Pope.

The private audience became doubly memorable when the Pope gave his skullcap to Carmelo who asked for it. "Why do you want it?" asked the Pope. "Your Holiness," Carmelo replied, "Not many Filipinos can see you personally and kiss your hand, and you might not go back to the Philippines again. Your cap is not for myself, but for the Filipinos."

The skullcap and eight framed copies of poems written by John Paul II before he became Pope are displayed at the small museum behind the Chapel of Our Mother of the Eucharist and Grace in Barrio San Vicente, Santa Maria, Bulacan.

The chapel fills up for the 9 a.m. Mass on the First Saturday of the month and the healing afterwards during which roses are given to pilgrims. Carmelo puts a rose, soaked in holy oil, on the chest of a pilgrim. The roses transform into religious icons with scenes from the Scripture.

The chapel was donated to the Diocese of Malolos and declared a pilgrim shrine.

Carmelo first met John Paul II in 1995 when the Pope came to the Philippines for World Youth Day. Tony Adriano, who built and took charge of the mobile sacristy for the Pope, brought Carmelo to meet him.

Carmelo met the Pope again in Rome later that year and in 2004 when he went to Rome with pilgrims from the United States. This time the Pope gave him a Rosary, which had been working miracles for those who used it like board examinees who passed.

On Carmelo's last meeting with the Pope, the Holy Father told the pilgrims: "Be not afraid. Remember the Church of Jesus Christ will prevail." Carmelo said John Paul II was truly a special Pope because Mama Mary fetched him on the First Saturday (April 2, 9:37 p.m. Rome time) and the Feast of Mercy (April 3, 3 a.m. Manila time).

Carmelo predicted that John Paul II would be declared a saint. Monina Allarey Mercado, in a text message, said: "Mama Mary has fetched her/our Pope. Hear the Angels sing."

Pilgrimage

Fr. Rony Alkonga said St. Joseph also fetched the Pope and brought him to Heaven. St. Joseph is the patron saint of a good, peaceful death.

Fr. Rony, rector of the Oblates of St. Joseph minor seminary in Lipa, and Fr. Charlie Argente, parish priest of the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. Joseph in San Jose, Batangas would like to welcome pilgrims. The Federation of OSJ Lay Cooperators is organizing a pilgrimage on May 1, feast of St. Joseph the Worker, arriving on time for the 10 a.m. Mass.

Those wishing to join can text 0917-7909110, or call 7524223 and ask for Jessielyn. A minimal amount will be charged for fare and lunch. Meeting place is the parking lot of St. Jerome Emiliani Church in Ayala Alabang Town Center, 8 a.m. sharp, May 1, Sunday.

The church in San Jose, formerly known as Malaquing Tubig, was founded in 1765. Built by the famous botanist, Fr. Manuel Blanco in 1812, the church was run by Augustinians. It is a beautiful church with a dome above the altar where St. Joseph and the Child Jesus are shrined.

Fiesta

I was surprised to find a small beauty parlor named after St. Expeditus on San Andres St., Malate across Mercury Drugstore. The owner, Lucy Lasagoso, said an old man with a child gave her a novena to St. Expeditus while she was inside the Adoration Chapel of Malate Church.

Lucy always wanted to have her own beauty parlor. Five days after she began the novena, someone lent her the capital to open a small parlor. A stylist, Lucy credits St. Expeditus for this.

The novena to the saint begins at 6 p.m. today at the Holy Family Parish in Roxas District and will continue until April 18. A procession will be held after the 6:30 p.m. Mass on April 19.

At the St. Andrew Cathedral in Parañaque, a Triduum of Masses will be offered by the Society of St. Expeditus at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., April 16-18. There will be a procession after the 6 p.m. Mass on April 19, feast day of the saint. Fr. Manny Gabriel is the new parish priest.

The Parish of Our Lady of the Assumption on Leveriza, Malate, also holds novena Masses.

St. Expeditus, advocate of urgent matters, helps in all situations like the sale of property, getting a visa, solving a financial problem, passing the board, etc. Those who want novenas can write to me. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

NGO for women

Vides Philippines is an NGO affiliated with the Laura Vicuña Foundation which works for the upliftment of marginalized youth and women. Launched last March 30 at the First Maritime Place on Bagtikan St., Makati, it has Sr. Maria Victoria Sta. Ana as board chair and Marissa Concepcion, wife of Joey Concepcion, as vice chair.

Toni Gregory, a board member, said their current projects were: "Baboy Mo, Buhay Ko" gave beneficiaries piglets for breeding or fattening as capital for livelihood. So far 147 families have benefited from the program; "Busina Mo, Dunong Ko" is a mobile library with instruction that visits marginalized communities. It needs funding for van and books. To help, text Sister Marivic at 0916-7624098.

Help for disabled

Cely Romero, who has a master's in special education, is opening a school for special children and adults at Queen's Row, Bacoor, Cavite. For more details, text her at 0918-2201665.

Special journey

Telly Somera is organizing a pilgrimage to the Holy Land including Egypt and Jordan May 8-20. A special journey to the Old and New Testaments, it will bring pilgrims to Mt. Nebo where Moses viewed the Promised Land; the Sea of Galilee; Caparnaum; Tiberias, Cana, Jerusalem; and other places. Call Pacific Bound Travel and Tours at 5252891/5252893.

Movie premiere

The University of the Philippines College of Law Class of 1980 marks its Silver Jubilee this year with the theme "2005: A Celebration of Life and Friendship." As an initial activity, the class is presenting a special advance screening of "The Interpreter" at 7:30 p.m., April 18, at the Teatro Aguinaldo (AFP Multi-Purpose Hall), Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Call 8492281.

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April 29 - Fiesta Party
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April 30 - Pearl of the Pacific Party
PNB Amphitheater
Masterbeat DJ Bret Henrichsen
Ticket: P2,000.00

May 1 - Pool Party
New Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila
(1:00 pm - 6:00 pm)

May 1 - Mt. Pinatubo: Mud & Fire Party
World Trade Center
DJ Gomi
(9:00 pm onwards)
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From wedding to honeymoon—a one-stop venue

PLANNING a wedding can be taxing and even frustrating.

On top of every couple's list of choices to make is the venue for the big day. In Manila, couples would have to deal with noise and congestion, but a wedding in the province may be hampered by a lack of essential facilities.

As a wedding is most likely to be a once-in-a-lifetime event, couples want everything to be exactly right without any major hitches. The setting has to capture the romance of the event and contribute to making it memorable. This applies to both wedding ceremony and reception. Couples not only want everyone to be comfortable but also to enjoy good service, food and ambiance.

The honeymoon destination has to offer privacy and relaxation as well as provide recreational activities for the duration of a couple's stay.

Nestled high on Tagaytay Ridge, Tagaytay Highlands offers the tranquil beauty of the mountainside, open spaces and lush greenery.

Whether it is a garden wedding or a reception among stately pines, marrying couples and their guests get to enjoy the breathtaking view of the Taal lake and volcano and the surrounding countryside.

Tagaytay Highlands is just 60 minutes by car from Manila. Marrying couples can have an outdoor wedding ceremony, a fully catered reception, a romantic honeymoon, even a beautiful place for family and friends to stay.

Among the many couples who had their wedding at the Highlands were Jaime and Irene Vital in December, and Jose Benjamin "Pepito" and Maria Lourdes "Nancy" Angeles in 2000.

The Vitals, who are now based in California, had a garden wedding in the Tagaytay Midlands.

The Angeles said they had their wedding there because the Highlands was a second home.

Faustino Ines, who works in Singapore, and wife Faye, who manages a Federal Express franchise, picked the Midlands Veranda for their wedding reception in January, as the fresh air and chilly weather enhanced the romance of the occasion.

Couples who decide to spend their honeymoon at the Highlands can enjoy many recreational activities. The Highlands Spa and Lodge offers the ultimate in relaxation therapy and beauty treatments. Bride and groom can also benefit from a round of golf at one of two 18-hole championship golf courses or play badminton, tennis or bowling at the state-of-the-art sports facilities and then enjoy a rejuvenating massage afterward.

More than 20 restaurants specializing in Japanese, American, Chinese and other intercontinental dishes operate inside the resort.

Nick M. Celdran, Highlands general manager, says the resort's professional and experienced staff provides exceptional service and attends to every detail to guarantee a beautiful and unforgettable occasion.

Call (046)4130820. For membership and other information on Highlands developments, call 6872885.

HEIGHTEN the romance of your wedding day, and leave your guests raving long after the ceremony is over, with Tagaytay Highlands' bridal services.

Bridal expo opens today

"ALL about Weddings 4," the trend-setting bridal exposition organized by Hotel Inter-Continental Manila and ABS-CBN Publishing's Metro Weddings Magazine, opens today and runs until tomorrow at the hotel.

Now on its fourth successful year, the event gathers the country's most sought-after wedding product and service suppliers.

On exhibit at the lobby are the wedding gowns of movie queen Susan Roces-Poe by J. Moreno, Grace Barbers-Baja by Joe Salazar, Nancy Binay-Angeles by Patrice Ramos-Diaz and Anne Binay-Alcantara by Aureo Alonso.

Cooking demonstrations on easy and fast-to-prepare dishes will also be conducted by Food Magazine culinary experts today, 2 p.m. At 4 p.m., there will be a lecture on basic home styling by noted interior designers courtesy of Metro Home Magazine.

Make-up demonstrations by Metro Weddings will be held tomorrow at 12:30 p.m. In the evening, Cesar Gaupo, chief designer for Shanghai Tang's made-to-order line, will present his haute couture creations for a full bridal entourage under his own label for a garden wedding. This will be at the poolside garden at 6 p.m.

Gowns for the mothers of the wedding couple, the principal and the secondary sponsors, the bridesmaids, and flower girls in the most exciting colors will be shown. Noted floral designer Tony Rodriguez will take charge of garden design and table settings. Beauty expert Patrick Rosas and his team will handle hair and makeup. Jewelry will be provided by Rafael. Staging and direction will be by Jackie Aquino.

Call 8159711.

Milestones

TAMAYO-BERNAL

Analiza Bernal, 2001 Binibining Pilipinas and 2002 Mutya ng Pilipinas semifinalist, daughter of **Lolita Amoroso,** recently wed **Don Tamayo,** son of Col. **Claro Tamayo** Sr. (ret.) and **Porferia Tamayo,** at Miraculous Medal Church, Lipa City. The bride wore a gown by **Janine Hernandez,** hair and makeup was done by **Eddie Rosales.** Reception was at El Grande Hotel, Lipa.

RICAFORT-VIDA

Reuel Ricafort, son of **Rogelio Ricafort** (deceased) and **Viola Alcala,** recently married **Rosanna Vida,** daughter of **Hernando Vida** and **Estrella Encarnacion,** at Garden of Portico, Cavite. Reception followed at the Pavillion.

MARTIN-TODIÑO

Greg Martin from the United Kingdom wed **Ultima Todiño** of Manila on April 9 in a solemn ceremony with family and friends at the Nami Resort in Boracay Island, Aklan.

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Milestones

SULIT DEBUT

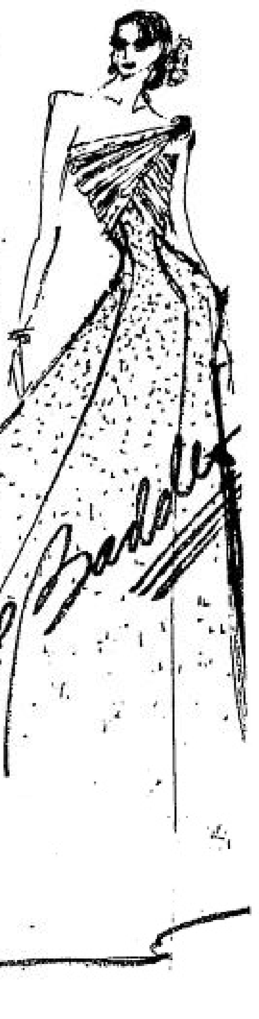
Aprilyn Sulit, daughter of engineer **Moreto** and **Evelyn Sulit**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on April 30 at the Grand Menseng Hotel. Her brother **Eric Morris** will be her escort while **Tata Sanchez Soriano** will be the event's florist.

TE DEBUT

Cherry Mary Joy Te, daughter of **Carlos** and **Betty Te**, a BS Math freshman at De La Salle University, celebrated her 18th birthday with a dinner-dance at the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel on April 2. She wore a gown designed by **Ernest Santos**, with overall coordination by Elegant Event Specialist.

URBANOZO DEBUT

Lea Marie Urbanozo, daughter of **Luchie** and the late **George Urbanozo**, will celebrate her 18th birthday with a dinner-dance on April 16 at Cafe Villa, New Philippine Army Officers' Clubhouse at Fort Bonifacio, Taguig. **Raymund John Ramo** and elder brother **Gerard Paul** will escort her. A liberal arts freshman student at University of Asia and Pacific, Lea will wear a Thai silk and shantung princess-cut ballgown in criss-crossed draping bodice of rose pink, baby pink and fuchsia designed and executed by **Eddie Baddeo**.

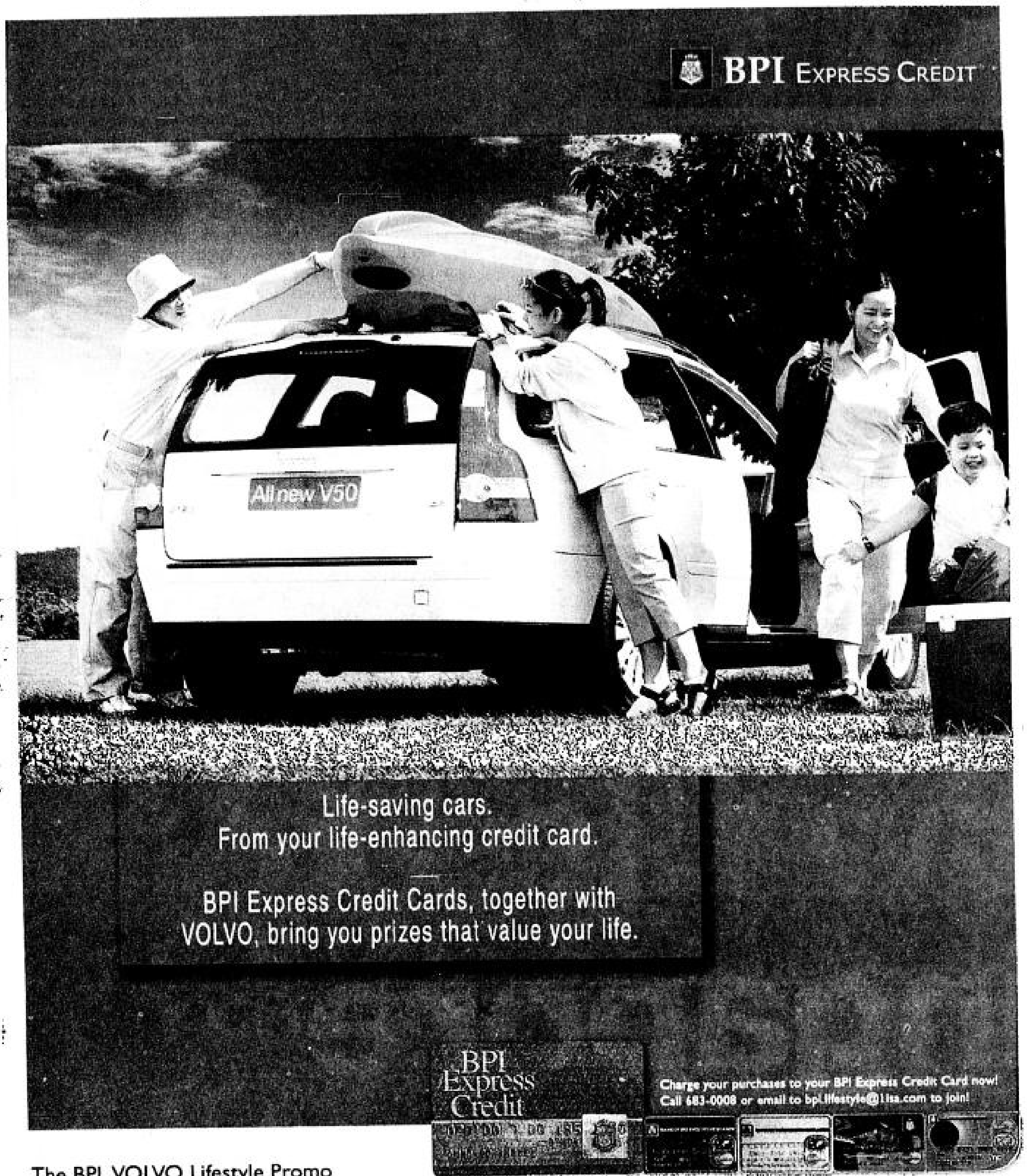

Eddie Baddeo

SINGSON DEBUT

Ma. Esther Anne Singson, daughter of the late **Evaristo Singson** and **Linda Garcia**, will celebrate her 18th birthday at the Grand Ballroom of the Mandarin Hotel on April 17. She is a freshman student at De La Salle University. She will wear a fuchsia bustier princess-cut gown with ribbon detail on the bodice with Swarovski crystals by **Linoi**.

YOINGCO DEBUT

Melinda "Dada" P. Yoingco, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Dave Yoingco**, celebrated her 18th birthday recently at her residence in Quezon City. She is a sophomore at Ateneo de Manila University.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Every ₱500 single purchase gives you one raffle entry. To join, register your purchases by calling the promo hotline: 683-0008 for Metro Manila callers: 1-800-10-683-0008 for callers outside Metro Manila.

You can also register your purchases through email: bpi.lifestyle@1isa.com. Just email the following purchase information as they appear in your charge slip: (1) 16-digit BPI Express Credit card number (2) transaction amount, including centavos (3) transaction date: mm/dd/yy (4) transaction time: hh/mm.

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For BPI Express Credit: Classic/Burgundy, Blue MasterCard, Gold MasterCard, Edge and Mini Edge, promo period is from November 15, 2004 to April 30, 2005. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3121 Series of 2004.

For Petron-BPI Express Credit, promo period is from October 21, 2004 to April 30, 2005. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2521, Series of 2004

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A tradition of leadership

Approved applications during the promo period will also earn raffle entries. For application and inquiries, call BPI Express Phone 89-100, visit any BPI or BPI Family Bank branch or Express Banking Center or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com. Actual unit may vary from photo.

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DREAM islet in the sapphire sea, at Panglao Island Nature Resort

A MUST when you're in Bohol—the Loboc River cruise

A Bohol holiday for free

Use your Visa card, earn enough points and live it up in this Visayan hot spot

Text and photos by Belle V. Bondoc

SUMMER is when people's fancy turns to beaches, mountains or, for those from the provinces, hometowns. It's the time for traveling and seeing the sights.

Of course, the trip will be even more enjoyable if you do not have to worry about the expense, particularly plane fare.

This is where the partnership promo between the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank (HSBC) and the Philippine Airlines, "Mabuhay Miles Visa: Sayang ang Miles," hopes to help.

It aims to give Visa cardholders the chance to travel free through points they earn by using their credit cards.

"For every P45 charged to the credit card of an HSBC Mabuhay Miles cardholder, he earns one air mile (or one point)," says Claire Yap, senior vice president and head of credit cards for HSBC.

A cardholder can accumulate points by using his credit card to shop, buy gas, pay for tuition and others.

With 4,000 miles or points earned, the cardholder can fly free to Bohol, one of the preferred destinations on the HSBC-PAL rewards list.

"A free trip is still the best reward you can give to yourself and your loved ones," says Barbara Aragon, PAL assistant vice president-marketing products.

Heritage tour

HSBC and PAL arranged a media tour of Bohol with Metropolitan Museum director Ino Manalo as guide.

"[One of the reasons we chose Bohol] is it's new to most of us," says Yap as she welcomed the media group from Manila (mostly Bohol first-timers) and Cebu, at the Panglao Island Nature Resort.

The two-day heritage tour included a cruise down Loboc River and a special concert by the award-winning Loboc Children's Choir.

Bohol is a cultural heritage showcase, its history and culture so colorful.

One of the heritage structures the province is famous for, the Baclayon Church, a massive edifice of finely cut coral stones, was built in 1596 by the Jesuits. It is considered the oldest fortress church in the Philippines.

The centuries-old church is made more precious by the carved patterns across the altar walls with "gold dust" that faded—albeit beautifully—with the years.

The religious statues and images are now priceless antiques. *Retablos* may be showing the signs of age, with cut corners and faded paint, but are still very impressive. Paintings on walls and ceilings are richly detailed.

Manalo said Baclayon arguably had one of the most beautiful church interiors in the Philippines.

The church kept more treasures in its museum in the upper floor of the edifice—priests' vestments with rich embroidery and delicate fabrics, images of saints and the Child Jesus, tabernacles of wood and silver, a couple of huge song books (called *cantoral*) and several candle stands.

The equally famous Loboc Church, like most colonial churches in the Philippines, has its own history of miracles, destruction and restoration.

The Jesuit-built church's façade is an example of plateresque, richly ornamented with scrolls, tendrils, medallions, niches and pilasters.

It has five *retablos*, the main one in Neoclassical style. Two smaller *retablos*, each at the transept endings, are a mixture of styles. One has columns resembling pierced ivory pieces carved by Chinese artisans.

Adjacent to the church is the Tuburan Heritage Museum and the Loboc Museum where heritage workshops and exhibits for

A BOHOL/ G3

CHOCOLATE Hills

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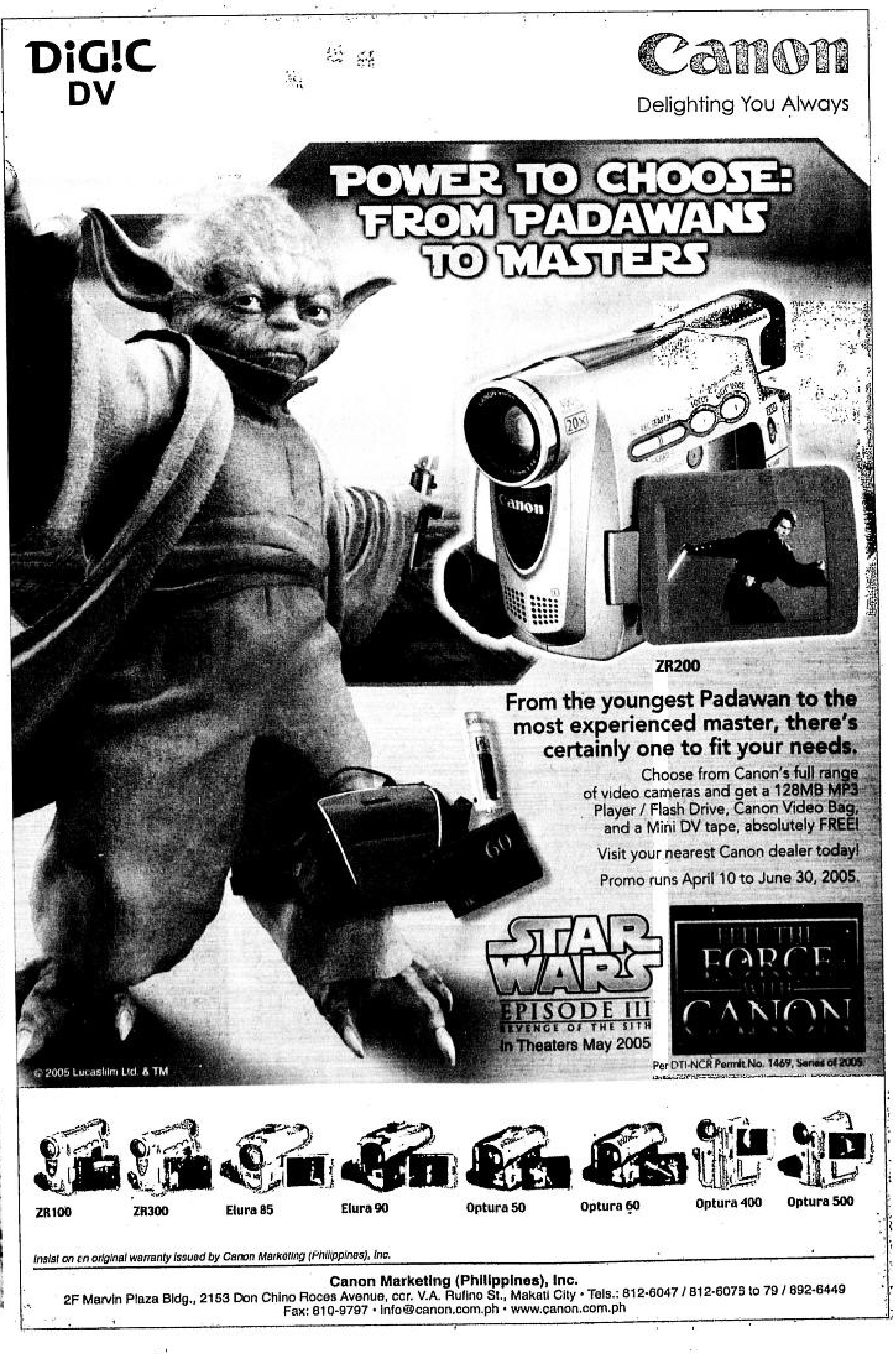

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Promo runs April 10 to June 30, 2005.
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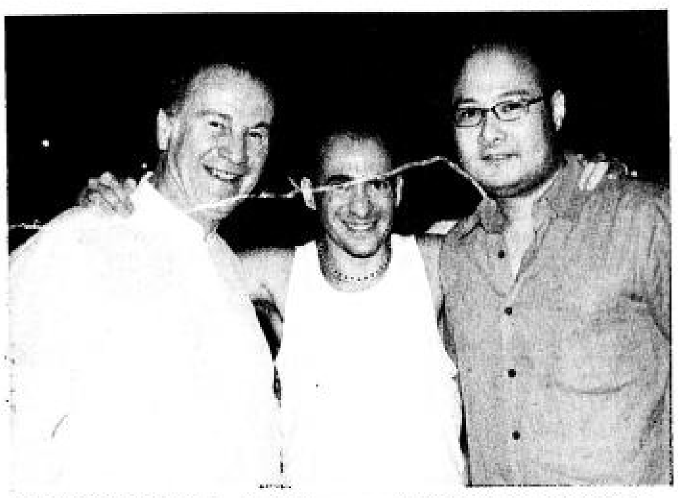
MARK Jentes, Adrian Cuenca, Wendell Garcia, Stevie Tambunting and Lounge resident DJ Elian Habayeb

CHERIE Habayeb, Twinky Lagdameo, Caren Grey and Farah Rodriquez

Beach party in the city



MANDARIN GM Helmut Geisberger and Kit Cojuangco with Elian

PEOPLE recently got to experience something they had never experienced before in Makati: a beach party.

Sand was brought in to create a beach at the Mandarin hotel pool. SKYY Vodka bean bags were everywhere so people could lounge around, and there were also hammocks hanging from palm trees. People swam, played volleyball, got massages and henna tattoos. There was even barbecue and various tropical beach drinks, just like at the beach.

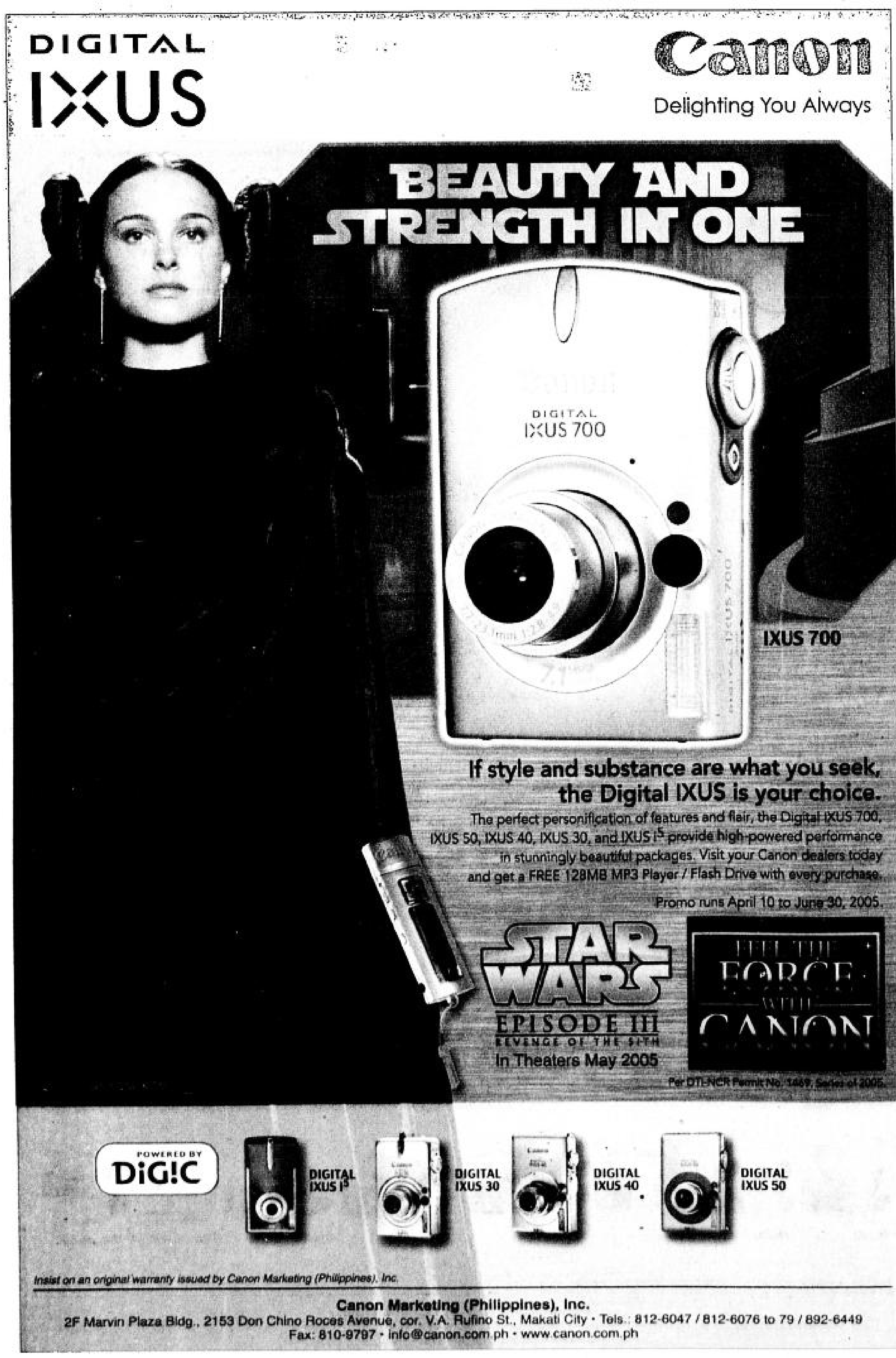
This exclusive party really started heating up as guests came in their hottest beach wear... in the middle of the city. Flip flops, sarongs and bikinis were everywhere.

And the music was perfect. Adrian Cuenca played a sunset session which was followed by "beach house" sets from an excellent lineup of DJs. Stevie Tambunting, Wendell Garcia, Mark Cali-Jentes and Chip Dela "Soul" Calzada played alongside Lounge resident DJ Elian Habayeb. Over a thousand people filled the pool area during the party.

DJ Grant Stetski from Vancouver, Canada, also joined in the chant and played an excellent house set, displaying his famous turntablism. As if this wasn't enough, legendary DJ Kevin Ruiz played a sunrise session that had people jumping into the pool at 8 a.m. He was followed by fellow New York DJ Steven Lovina (Government), who played an eclectic morning chill-set.

Stay plugged in for more Paseo Uno Lounge exclusive events. Or e-mail elian_habayeb@hotmail.com for comments or ideas.

ANN Jaleco and Johnjohn Osmeña



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Promo runs April 10 to June 30, 2005.

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TRAVELBRIEFS

Discounted summer escapade

Enjoy a 50-percent discount in any of the properties of the Legend International Resorts Ltd. (LIRL).

With Subic's Legenda Hotel "Legendary Summer Escapade" promo, you can get a superior and deluxe room at the Legenda Hotel or Grand Seasons Hotel for only P3,200 and P3,800, respectively. A two-bedroom suite at the Legenda Suites is available for P4,800 net.

All rooms come with a complimentary buffet breakfast for two and two tickets to the Residence Inn Zoobic Safari.

Guests have a chance to win fabulous prizes with the year-long "12 & 12 Legendary Raffle Bonanza Mega Promo." Over P2 million worth of prizes will be given away monthly in celebration of LIRL's 12th year of business at the Subic Bay Freeport.

Guests will get one raffle coupon with a minimum rate receipt of P4,200 per room per night; a single receipt worth P2,250 of food consumption at Le Café, Highland Café, Lobby Lounge or Neptune Club; and a minimum bill of P4,500 at the Museum Chinese Restaurant, Feng Huang Shabu Shabu, or Four Seasons Restaurant. Also qualified are visitors who get a minimum buy-in of P5,600 worth of non-negotiable chips for table games, or P2,250 slot machine tokens. Call 7329888.

Special package

Singapore Airlines offers a top-of-the-line exclusive package from $2,419 per person. This four-night package includes round-trip economy class airfare from Manila, first night at the Banyan Tree Maldives Vabbinfaru and three nights onboard the Four Seasons Explorer with full board cruise meals, three dives per day including diving and snorkeling equipment, organized recreational activities such as island tour and exploration, water sports and fishing trip, one-way seaplane transfer, breakfast and dinner at the resort and round-trip airport speedboat transfers. This special deal is valid until April 30.

Call your travel agent or Singapore Airlines tours desk in Manila at 7515151, in Cebu at 2326211, and in Davao at 2245608.

New 'Discover HK' campaign

The Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) says it will spend up to HK$470 million to implement the 2006 Discover Hong Kong Year campaign.

HKTB chair Selina Chow forecasts that the campaign would bring total arrivals in 2006 to a new record. "We expect that total visitor arrivals will reach 27.14 million. At the same time, the total tourism expenditure will exceed the HK$100 billion mark to reach HK$114.7 billion.

HKTB has decided to stage this new international marketing campaign in 2006 because the year represents a critical milestone in the history of Hong Kong's tourism.

With several new infrastructure projects, including Hong Kong Disneyland, Hong Kong Wetland Park and the Tung Chung Cable Car, 2006 presents a golden opportunity for Hong Kong to take center stage in the international publicity arena.

The HKTB will package these new attractions with Hong Kong's existing unique products to present an array of diverse, multidimensional offerings that satisfy visitors from different markets and segments.

Spectacular sunset by the pool

Manila Bay lays claim to the most spectacular sunset in the world. For this daily attraction, sunset gazers repair to the Westin Philippine Plaza poolside underneath tall, gently swaying palms.

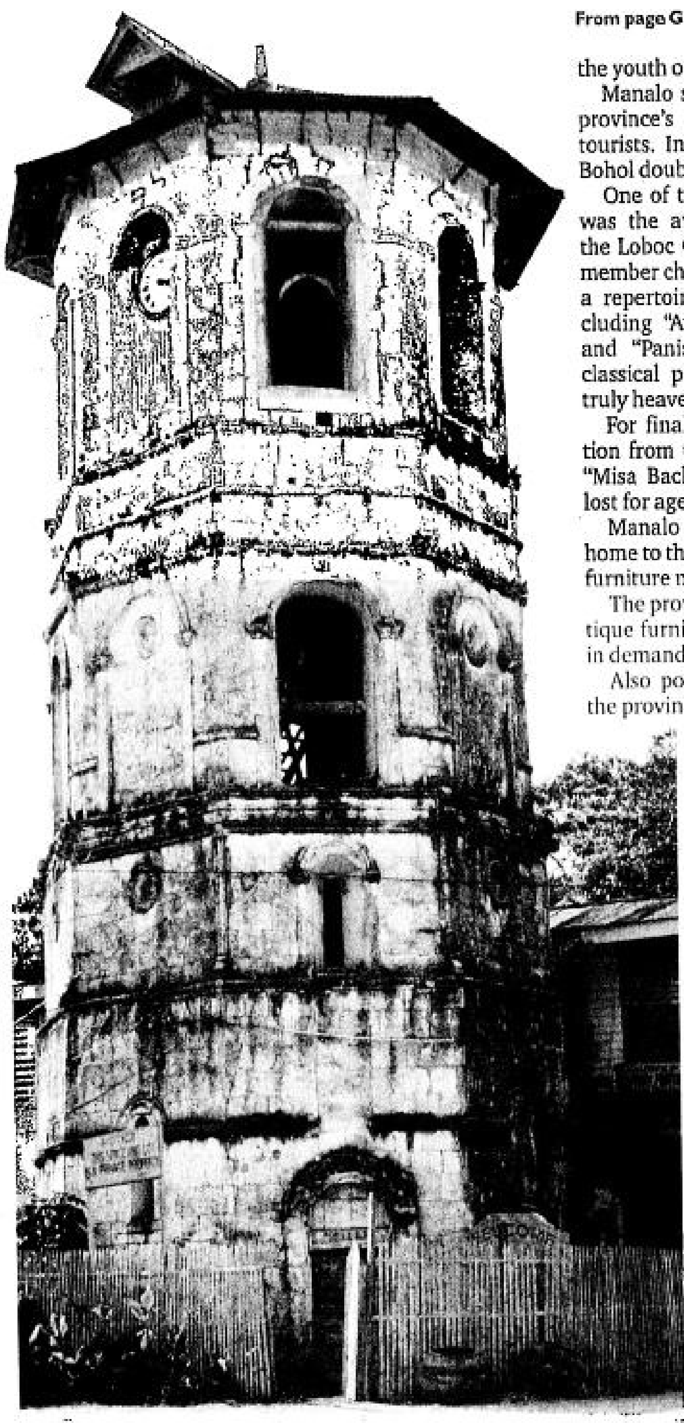
From offices in Makati and Malate, Manileños and expatriates shed business concerns and lose themselves in the tropical cocktail-hour ambience.

The dream-like sequence is hardly over when the sun finally dips below the horizon. Out come the tiki torches and a mouthwatering array of barbecued fare to choose from: fresh seafood, beef and pork tournedos, vegetable kebabs, fruits and desserts—all of which adorn the longest buffet in town.

Silka dance troupe perform s ethnic and folk dances and invites guests to hop over bamboo poles in the popular *tinikling*, to cap a truly relaxing evening by the pool.

SUNSET at Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel poolside

A Bohol holiday for free



LOBOC Church bell tower

From page G1

the youth of Loboc are held.

Manalo said exhibits boosted the province's efforts to attract more tourists. In fact, he says, flights to Bohol doubled.

One of the highlights of the tour was the awesome performance of the Loboc Children's Choir. The 30-member choir, aged 8-15, performed a repertoire of religious songs including "Ave Maria," "Our Father" and "Panis Angelicus" plus some classical pieces. Their voices were truly heavenly.

For finale, the group sang a section from the town's musical piece, "Misa Baclayana," which had been lost for ages according to Manalo.

Manalo said Loboc was not just home to the young talents but also to furniture makers.

The province is also known for antique furniture pieces that are much in demand in Manila and abroad.

Also popular among tourists are the province's ancestral houses.

GREAT ocean view at Panglao Island Nature Resort

Pleasures

Simple things really make a stay in a place like Bohol pleasurable. The beaches of Panglao (said to be more beautiful than Bali's), a favored diving destination, provide a restful escape from the stressful urban life. One can simply laze on the pristine white-sand beaches or engage in water sports like diving and snorkeling.

Another option is stay in one of the villas of the Panglao Island Resort with its magnificent view of the sea and have a relaxing massage.

Of course, a visit to Bohol will not be complete without seeing the famous Chocolate Hills—1,268 of them. The natural wonder at the heart of Bohol is about an hour from Loboc.

Another must-see for tourists is the tiny, bug-eyed Philippine tarsier, the world's smallest primate.

Visitors have to experience the Loboc River cruise on a floating restaurant, a bamboo raft adorned with nipa fruits and local flowers that sits 30-40 people.

The river has become familiar not only because of so many pictorials done here but because of Cesar Montano's recent film, "Panaghoy sa Suba."

A BOHOL/ G4

PRICELESS antique religious statues and images on exhibit at the Loboc Museum

A BOHOL treasure—the Loboc Children's Choir with conductor Alma Taldo

Feel The Force With Canon

Two powerful forces come together as Canon Marketing Philippines Inc. (CMPI) and Star Wars Episode III jointly unleash their commanding supremacy this quarter of 2005.

Canon, the leading photographic and digital imaging company, has just announced the release of 24 of its most significant innovations in consumer and professional digital cameras, video cameras, scanners, multifunction printers, and compact photo printers.

"From an 8-megapixel Digital SLR digital camera, digital video cameras with equally proficient still camera functions, to an exciting array of multifunction printers by PIXMA and a 7-megapixel Digital IXUS camera, Canon continues to develop and innovate new products that will certainly delight our consumers," says Gelo Martinez, Senior Sales & Marketing Manager for the Consumer Imaging and Information Products of CMPI.

Together with its latest products, Canon also launches its aggressive promotional tie-up with the last and most awaited episode of George Lucas' most popular saga, "Star Wars: Episode III-Revenge of the Sith."

"Our market grew up with Star Wars and this strategic partnership, particularly our upcoming promotional and advertising campaigns, will greatly appeal and excite them," Gelo adds

Digital camera leadership

Canon has yet again proven its supremacy in the digital camera market with the release of four new digital cameras-the Powerhot A510 and A520, and the **Digital IXUS 50** and **IXUS 700.**

The PowerShot A510 is the latest addition to the PowerShot series popularly known for its high image quality and creative camera functions. Featuring 3.2-megapixel performance, 4x optical zoom, a total of 20 shooting modes, and Canon's DIGIC imaging processor, the PowerShot A510 is a well designed camera that sports an attractively hip brushed metal look. Perfect for consumers seeking maximum value for money.

The PowerShot A520 shares the same concept of form, functionality, and affordability. It is extremely easy to use and yet packed with powerful features such as a 4x optical zoom, DIGIC Imaging Processor and 4.0 megapixels. Consumers who want maximum performance with good value will doubtlessly be delighted with the evolution of improvements in the PowerShot A520 that will make photography easier and more satisfying than before

By using an SD memory card and only two AA batteries, the overall design of PowerShot A510 and A520 has been refined, making the camera more stylish, compact and lighter in weight.

The Digital IXUS 50, the 5.0 megapixel version of the most popular Digital IXUS 40, delivers equally stunning visual results with 3x optical zoom and in-camera editing capabilities. With a decorative metallic plated front ring to the high grade brushed steel texture, the Digital IXUS 50's fashionable and sleek design is sure to capture attention anywhere.

Perfecting the delicate balance between style and substance, the sleek and stylish Digital IXUS 700 is powered by a 7-megapixel CCD that can capture incredibly vivid details. The ultra-slim body with beautiful curved design of the IXUS 700 is the result of a revolutionary Perpetual Curve Design production technique. Using this technology exclusive to Canon, the Digital IXUS 700 achieves high resolution while retaining the compact, sleek and stylish look of Digital IXUS designs.

The Digital IXUS 700 and IXUS 50 are equipped with UA Lens Technology, enabling powerful the Canon Lens to be packed into its slim body. They are also powered by Canon's revolutionary DIGIC II Imaging Processor-the same processor used in Canon's high-end professional SLR cameras.

Professional SLR performance within reach

Even before its release, the Canon EOS 350D has already been receiving exceptional reviews from industry experts and journalists all over the world. A successor of the highly popular EOS 300D, the 350D features an 8-megapixel CMOS sensor, a DIGIC II high-resolution imaging processor, and a wide spectrum of other high-end functions that integrates the very latest technologies in digital photography including those found in higher range Canon digital SLRs like the EOS 1D Mark II and EOS 20D.

The unique blend of high-specification performance and affordability will appeal to first-time digital SLR buyers; recreational photographers upgrading from prosumer cameras; analog SLR users upgrading to digital; and photography enthusiasts or amateur photographers wanting to experiment with more advanced digital SLR technologies.

Video camera breakthroughs

With seven outstanding choices-the **ZR 100, 200,** and **300, Elura 85** and **90,** and **Optura 50** and **60**-Canon has a full range of consumer video cameras for varying videography needs.

Setting the ZR series apart from the rest of the competitors is its optimum zoom capacity. With up to 22x optical zoom and 440x digital zoom, the new ZR video cameras can also deliver high-resolution (16:9) widescreen footages. For the first time ever, this feature was integrated in Canon's most affordable video cameras.

The new ZR series has a refreshingly chic design and compact styling with no bulky protrusions. The video camera body appears fluidly elegant and streamlined, for better ergonomics and one-handed operation. Despite its compact size, the ZR series is packed with exciting Canon innovations like DIGIC DV imaging processor and equipped with genuine Canon optics for zoom magnification up to 22x optical zoom, perfect for capturing life's special moments.

Canon's Photo DV range has just taken a leap to the next level with the introduction of the new Elura 85 and 90, featuring compact styling and megapixel performance. The Photo DV branding on the Elura 85/90 represents Canon's assurance of professional-quality videos and photo-perfect stills from a single device. By incorporating a 1.33-megapixel CCD, a DIGIC DV imaging processor, the Elura 85 and 90 amply delivers on the Photo DV promise and more.

Elura 85 and 90 features a powerful 20x and 18x optical zoom lens respectively. Both the video cameras have been designed with Canon's new Stream Surface philosophy, which presents a highly fluid form factor with continuous, flowing lines from viewfinder to lens. Together with the use of high-quality materials and finishing, the stylish design and compact body sets Elura 85 and 90 apart from the rest of the market-perfect for users seeking more features without compromising on size.

The photo-perfect quality of stills and additional camera functions like a built-in flash, allows the Elura 85 and 90 to satisfactorily double as a digital camera. Combining superb functionality with ease-of-operation, Elura 85 and 90 will appeal to everyone especially families, frequent travellers, and users upgrading for better image quality and features.

Meanwhile, for the epitome of Canon's Photo DV promise, comes the new Optura 50 and 60 digital video cameras with 2.2 megapixels and Optical Image Stabilizer (OIS) for movies and stills. With 14x optical zoom, the Optura 60 is the only video camera with OIS and 14x optical zoom in the market today.

High powered film and document scanning

Scanning remains to be integral to personal and office work. With this in mind, Canon has just introduced its latest scanners designed for document and film scanning.

Lide 500F, Canoscan 4200F, 8400F, and **9950F** give fast and high-resolution scanning a new face with their highly attractive and space-saving designs With varying scanning speeds and three-way scanning positions for the Lide 500F, Canon effectively matches every consumer scanning need.

PIXMA offers office solutions

PIXMA continually redefines the printing experience with the launch of its first series of PIXMA multifunction printers with scan, copy, print, and fax capabilities. The new **PIXMA MP110, MP 130,** and **MP780** are designed for corporate and office use.

Perfect work companions of business-minded individuals and creative and multi-tasking entrepreneurs, the PIXMA MP110 and MP130 are affordable all-in-one machines that have printing, scanning, and copying features. The MP780 model, however, does more-it has fax, film scanning, and colored copying features.

Compact and mobile printing with Selphy

Selphy Photoprinters, gives digital camera users the best reason to do home and mobile printing. The Canon Selphy 400, 500, 600 and DS700 offer a wide range of choices for specific needs and requirements.

The Selphy DS700 compact photo printer blends perfectly into the modern home as it easily connects to a television for image viewing. Photo print quality using bubble jet technology certainly stands out, featuring true 4800x1200 dpi resolution and ultra-fine 2 picoliter ink droplets. Selphy DS700 delivers grain-free photographs with revealing details that rival those from photo labs.

The new Selphy 500 and 400 offer easy operation, compact size, high picture quality and superior features. The more advanced Selphy 500 features a newly developed high-speed AC drive to deliver faster photo printing speeds. to cope with the higher volume of images that users of modern digital camera owners shoot. The Selphy 400, on the other hand, delivers affordable photo quality prints using dye sublimation technology. The Selphy 400 and 500 can produce prints from credit card size to 4R (4 x 6") in about 60 seconds.

The Selphy 600 Photoprinter has built-in Infrared and optional Bluetooth adapter for transferring images. Packed with a lithium-ion battery, the Selphy 600 is highly mobile and allows printing from any location. With the Selphy 600, prints can be picture-perfect even if the original picture was not, as it can be corrected by using intelligent automatic dynamic range correction. which bestows better gradation reproduction and sharpness.

The prints from Selphy 400, 500, and 600 have durable, protective overcoating, which protects cherished photo prints from water spills, and comes with the Canon 100 Years Print Guarantee**.

All products are available by April 2005.

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In Theaters May 2005
Selphy 400
Selphy 500

Connect your digital camera or video camera directly without a computer and create your own lab quality prints from any location. Also create your own handy I.D. and movie prints with the Canon Selphy 400, Selphy 500, or Selphy 600. You'll also receive an exclusive *Star Wars* Jedi Clip Watch for FREE.

Visit your nearest Canon dealer today!

Promo runs April 10 to June 30, 2005

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1469, Series of 2005.

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A Bohol holiday for free

From page G3

TAKE a closer look at this "wingless bat," the tarsier.

Coconut and other fruit trees and rare plants grow on both sides of the river.

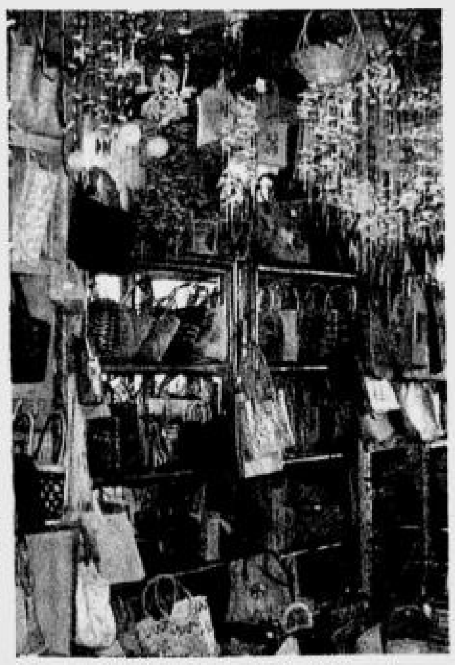
Aboard the raft, visitors were treated to typical Boholano dishes prepared including the *ambahon* (coconut soup) and the famous *suman na binalot*.

Bohol can be a popular destination for foodies, too, with its abundance of seafood; delicacies like *ube*, peanut kisses and *calamay*; not to mention the famous *broas* of Tagbilaran.

The Bohol's Bee Farm, known for its organic produce like squash muffins, pure honey and herb crackers. The restaurant (www.boholbeefarm.com) at the Bee Farm, owned by Vicky Wallace, serves organic dishes especially prepared for health-conscious individuals.

Many of Bohol's attractions have been preserved for generations: the great churches of stone, historical landmarks, clean white-sand beaches, and traditional food and delicacies. With its rich heritage and treasures, it is no wonder Bohol is now a favorite getaway.

E-mail the author at bbondoc@inquirer.com.ph.


STORE selling pretty and affordable native bags perfect for *pasalubong*

FLIGHT of stairs with 214 steps to the top for a perfect view of the world-famous Chocolate Hills

Spending can be rewarding

HSBC and the Philippine Airlines Mabuhay Miles Visa's Sayang ang Miles hopes to give loyal HSBC cardholders tangible rewards they can enjoy, like free trips here and abroad.

Spending becomes rewarding as the more you use your HSBC Mabuhay Miles Visa, the more chances you have to earn points and free trips.

A cardholder earns points or miles by using his credit card for shopping, to buy gas or medicines, to pay for tuition or trips. Every P45 charged to the credit card is equivalent to one air mile or one point.

A cardholder who accumulates 3,000 miles, for instance, may redeem a one-way ticket to Legazpi, Naga or Roxas. A total of 4,000 miles means a one-way ticket to Bohol, Cebu, Puerto Princesa, Bacolod or Iloilo.

A round-trip ticket to Hong Kong is equivalent to 15,000 miles; Singapore, 20,000 miles; Melbourne/Sydney, 40,000 miles; San Francisco and Vancouver, 60,000 miles.

Charging a Philippine Airlines ticket to the HSBC Mabuhay Miles Visa earns miles from the trip, as well as the ticket purchase.

Points can also be earned through supplementary cards, which can be exchanged for service upgrades (to first or business class or even annual fee waivers).

HSBC's Mabuhay Miles Visa was reported to be one of the fastest growing card products in the Philippines, with close to 150,000 cards issued in just two years, more than five times the initial projections.

HSBC executives say the Mabuhay Miles Visa also has one of the highest spending averages in the industry, close to thrice the average per card.

Claire Yap, senior vice president and head of credit cards for HSBC, confirms that, in the Gold card category, a spending of 15 times the industry average has been noted.

Two Mabuhay Miles Visa cards are available: the Classic (launched in August 2002) and Gold (launched in February 2004).

Classic cardholders get free travel accident insurance of P1.5 million when they charge their plane fare to their credit card. They double their miles when they use their card for purchases in partner establishments.

They can also avail of HSBC's installment plan facility, which offers 0 percent on installment facilities, with the option to pay as low as five percent.

HSBC's Mabuhay Miles Gold offers the highest credit limits starting at P500,000, one of the lowest interest rates in the market at 2.75 percent per month.

Cardholders enjoy free travel accident insurance of P3 million by charging air tickets to their credit cards. The Annual Mileage Rewards program fee of P500 is waived.

The use of Mabuhay Miles Gold Visa at partner establishments can triple miles earned. Visit www.hsbc.com.ph or call 8787878.

Belle V. Bondoc

BARBARA Aragon, PAL assistant vice president-marketing products; Claire Yap, senior VP and head of credit cards for HSBC; and Ria Domingo, PAL program development and communications officer

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H1

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KIDS' SUMMER READING

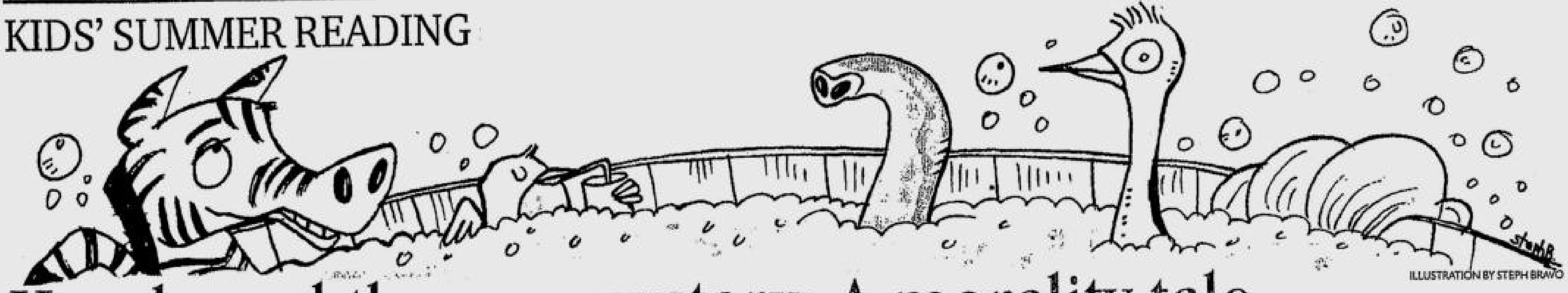
ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Horgle and the spa mystery: A morality tale for vain mamas and metrosexual papas

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

OUR hero, Horgle, the Horse-Eagle, had just been made Minister of Wildlife. It was his prize for having straightened out some bad kings for which he was given a starfish to wear.

His office was located between the largest forest called Evermore and an animal sanctuary called MML (Mammals Men Love). In the sanctuary, which was hundreds of kilometers wide and surrounded by moats, the animals roamed free. Actually, the word "mammals" wasn't quite right because the sanctuary also included lots of birds and water creatures, all of whom were fed regularly.

As the new Wild Life Minister, Horgle's first big headache was the Missing List. The sanctuary keeper kept updating it every week. Today it was—"Missing List: 5 wild turkeys; 2 ostriches; 1 peacock; 1 tiger; 1 hippopotamus."

How could such a big fat thing as a hippopotamus be missing?! But it was! Jasmin the Hippo had put on a red dress to go to the spa in the forest. And no one saw her again.

Just then the sanctuary keeper came running to Horgle. There was a letter in his hand and a very worried look on his face. "Something else is missing!" said the guy. "A unicorn!"

"A—what?" said Horgle.

"A unicorn," said the sanctuary keeper. "That's a pink horse with only one horn growing out of its forehead. There are very few unicorns left in the world. They disappeared when people stopped believing in them."

"And…?"

"This letter from Utopia says they sent us one unicorn exactly a month ago. I'm afraid she's been kidnapped."

"Well," said Horgle, "We shall find out."

That afternoon, Horgle visited the ostriches. He asked them where the missing ostriches, Osang and Offie, had gone. "To the spa," they said. Then Horgle visited the tigers. Did they know where Teodora, the missing tiger, had gone? "To the spa," they said. And the lost hippopotamus? "To the spa," the hippos answered.

But no one even knew what a unicorn was. Let alone seen one.

In search of beauty

The spa that all the missing animals had gone to belonged to a former bad king who had been banished to Evermore. But his Royal Badness (now plain Mr. Mix-Mix) had opened a beauty spa and become good. Anyway that's what everybody believed.

All the sanctuary animals went to the spa to be made beautiful. And what a job it was! It was easy with the zebras and the gazelles, the peacocks and the flamingoes who were beautiful to begin with. (They mostly needed just a shampoo or a trim or a blow dry.) But what about the anteaters, the gorillas, the crocodiles and the rhinoceroses? And the black swans who wanted to become white, and the white swans who wanted to become black, and the rich camel who wanted her humps flattened and the partridge chicks who wanted boobs? But hope springs eternal so they came back again and again.

Mr. Mix-Mix's beauty products, moreover, were popular all over the sanctuary and the forest. Specially his Terror Perfume and his Muskrat Lotion No. 5. Even more specially his Deep Secret Cream which promised to make the skin, even of old baboons, soft and kissable.

Mystery cream

All day, Mr. Mix-Mix and his assistants (other banished people) stirred the Deep Secret Cream in a tub the size of a small submarine. For one elephant alone used three pails a day! Sometimes Mr. Mix-Mix felt his arm would fall off while stirring.

Then one day Mr. Mix-Mix came to the spa with a huge box. He told his customers it was a new mixing machine imported from the Neverlands. It didn't look like a mixing machine. It looked more like a plain old tin box with a hole on one side. Out of this hole jutted a long, black, soft, mysterious "something" with a spoon tied to its end. (What was it?). All day the machine with the spoon went around and around the tub mixing the Deep Secret Cream. It was a queer machine. Sometimes it shuddered. And once in a while it sighed.

Hippo diet

The face cream was not Mr. Mix-Mix's only trouble. All the hippopotamuses wanted their weights reduced. They thought becoming

HORGLE/ H4

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RAGNAROK

BY ROBERT WONG

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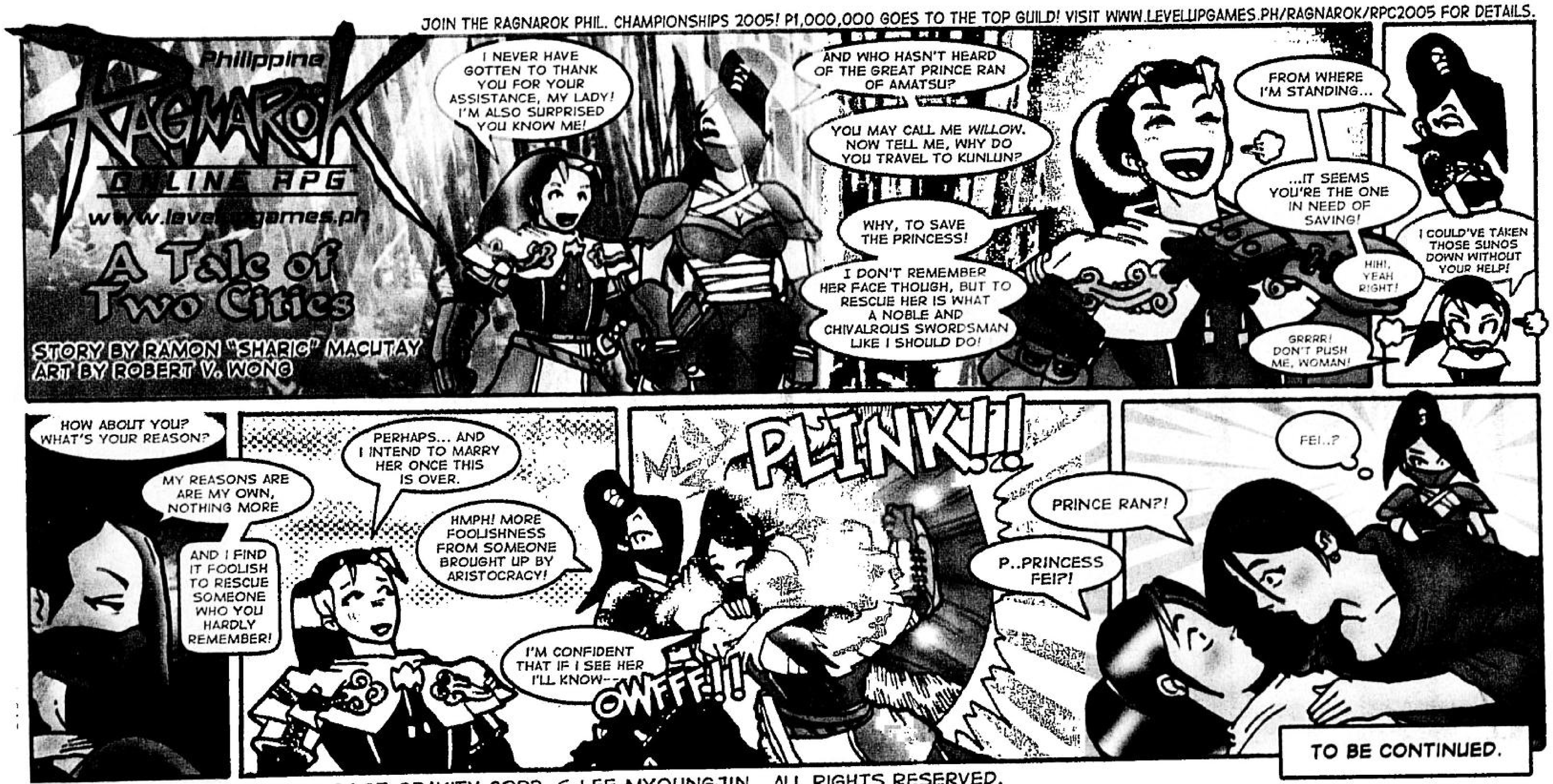
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A Tale of Two Cities
STORY BY RAMON "SHARIC" MACUTAY
ART BY ROBERT V. WONG
I NEVER HAVE GOTTEN TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE, MY LADY! I'M ALSO SURPRISED YOU KNOW ME!
AND WHO HASN'T HEARD OF THE GREAT PRINCE RAN OF AMATSU?
YOU MAY CALL ME *WILLOW*. NOW TELL ME, WHY DO YOU TRAVEL TO KUNLUN?
WHY, TO SAVE THE PRINCESS!
I DON'T REMEMBER HER FACE THOUGH, BUT TO RESCUE HER IS WHAT A NOBLE AND CHIVALROUS SWORDSMAN LIKE I SHOULD DO!
FROM WHERE I'M STANDING...
...IT SEEMS YOU'RE THE ONE IN NEED OF SAVING!
HIHI, YEAH RIGHT!
I COULD'VE TAKEN THOSE SUNOS DOWN WITHOUT YOUR HELP!
GRRRR! DON'T PUSH ME, WOMAN!
HOW ABOUT YOU? WHAT'S YOUR REASON?
MY REASONS ARE ARE MY OWN, NOTHING MORE
AND I FIND IT FOOLISH TO RESCUE SOMEONE WHO YOU HARDLY REMEMBER!
PERHAPS... AND I INTEND TO MARRY HER ONCE THIS IS OVER.
HMPH! MORE FOOLISHNESS FROM SOMEONE BROUGHT UP BY ARISTOCRACY!
I'M CONFIDENT THAT IF I SEE HER I'LL KNOW--
OWFFF!!!
PLINK!!!
PRINCE RAN?!
P..PRINCESS FEI?!
FEI..?
TO BE CONTINUED.

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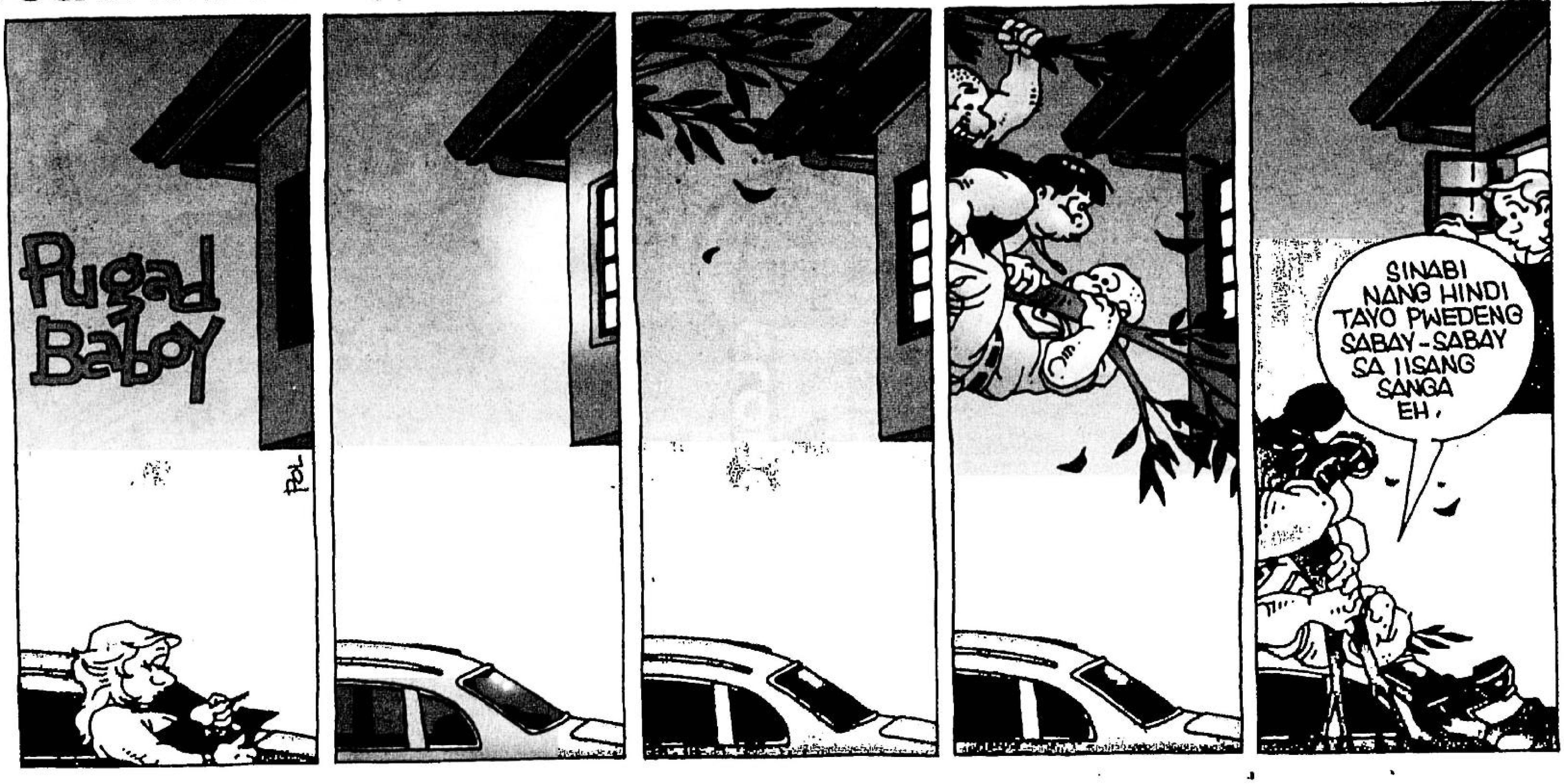
PUGAD BABOY

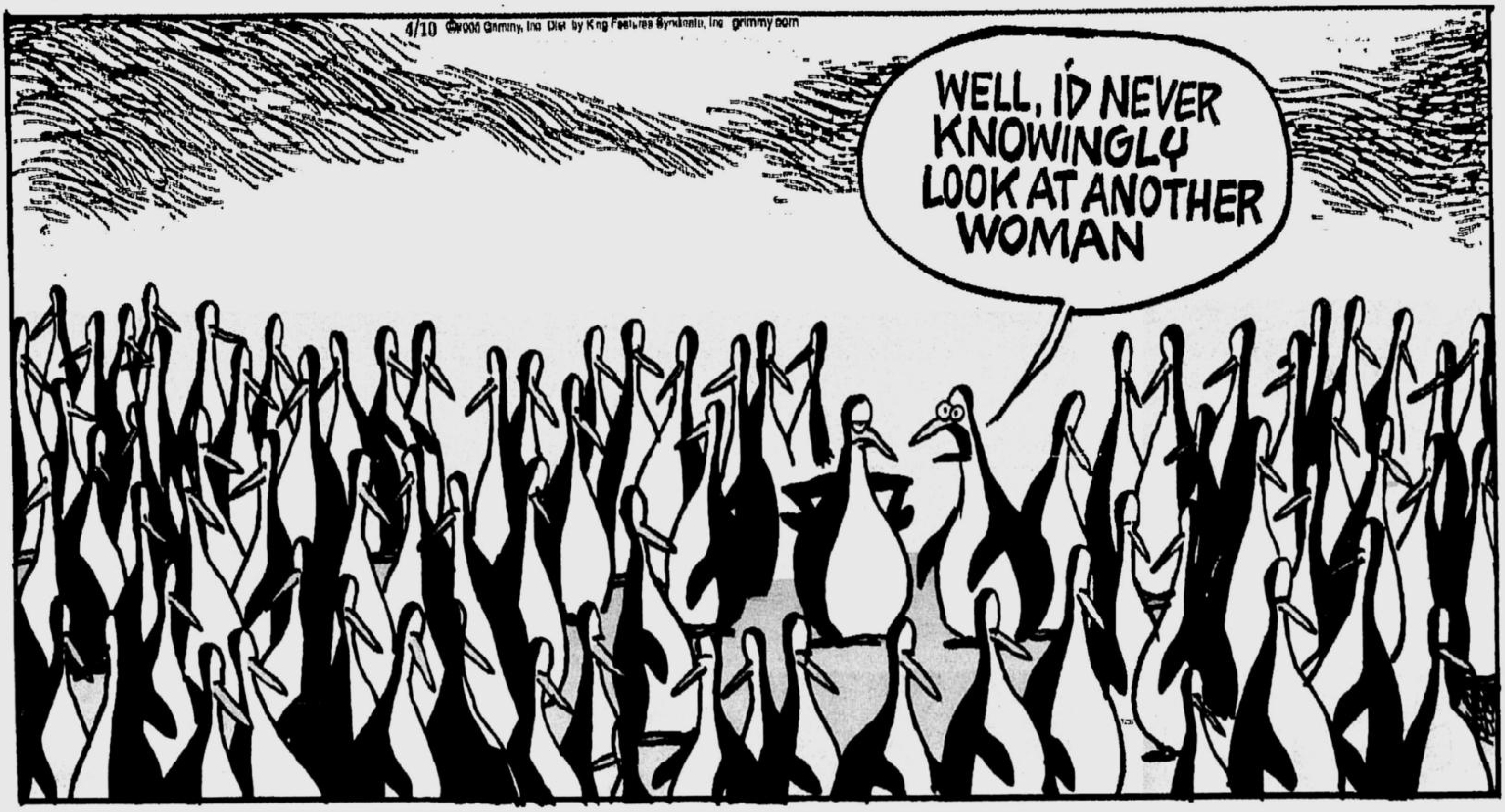
BY POL MEDINA JR.


Pugad Baboy
POL
SINABI NANG HINDI TAYO PWEDENG SABAY-SABAY SA IISANG SANGA EH.

FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO MIDGARD

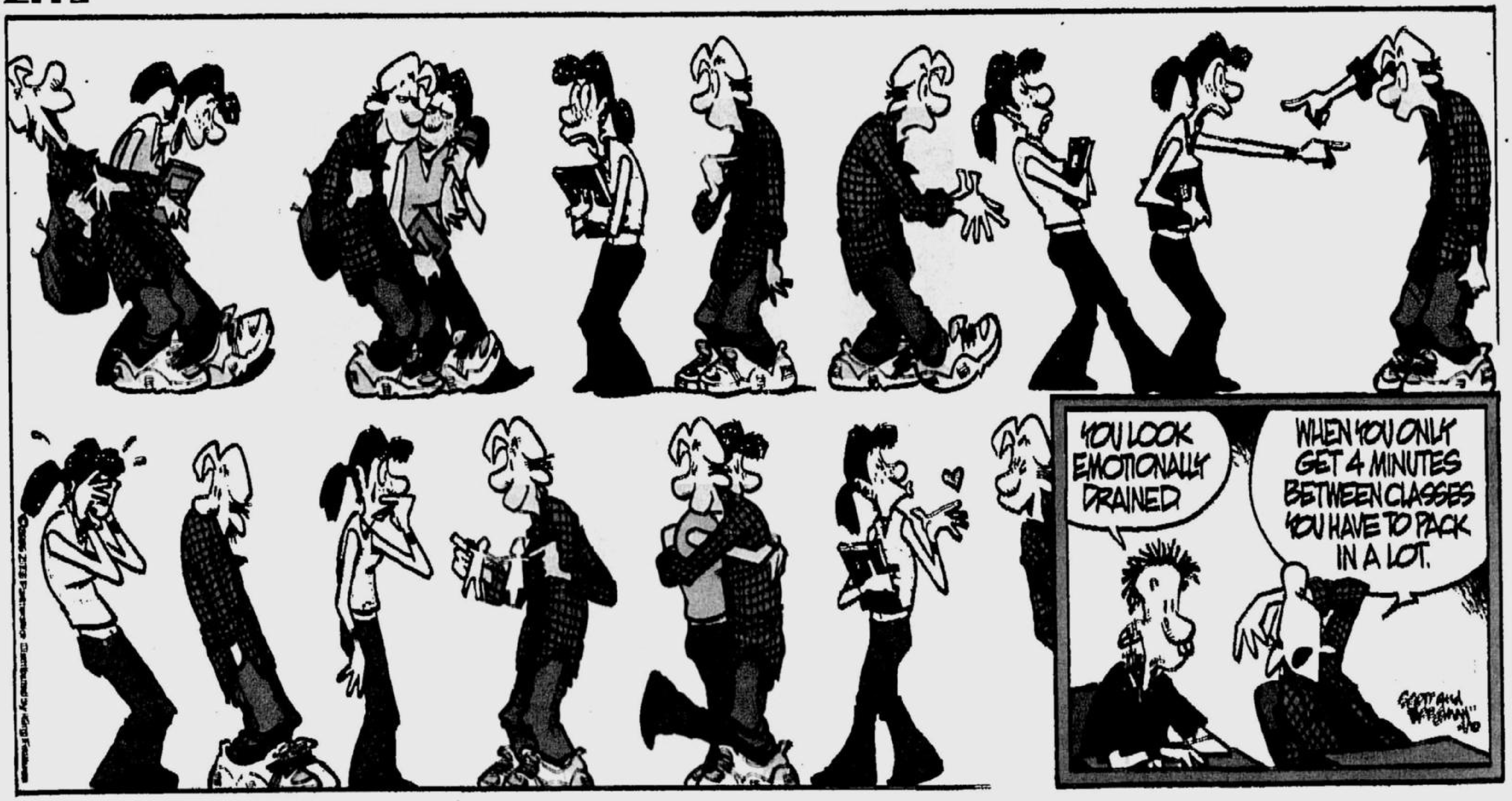
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


4/10 ©2005 Grimmy, Inc Dist by King Features Syndicate, Inc grimmy.com
WELL, I'D NEVER KNOWINGLY LOOK AT ANOTHER WOMAN

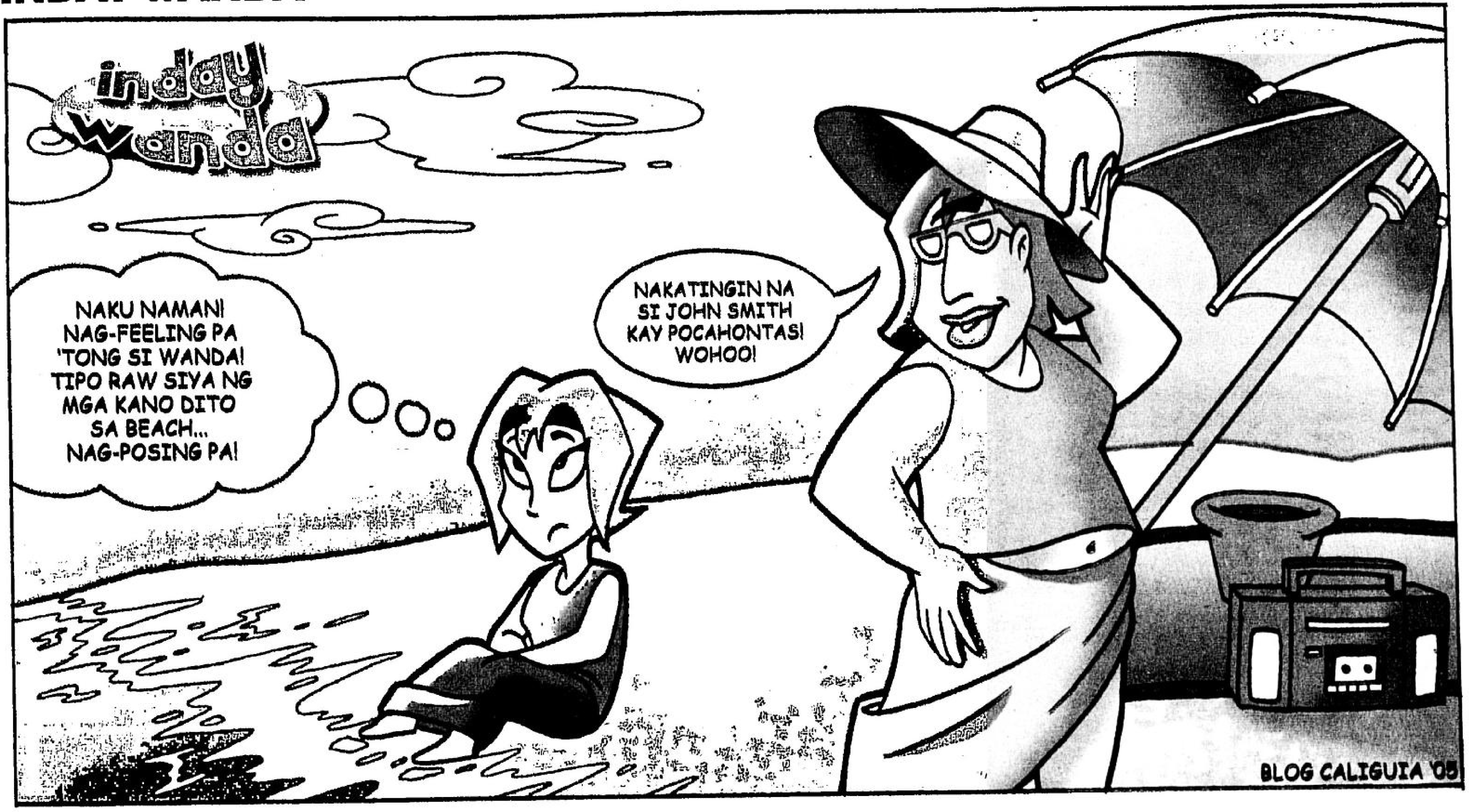
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


YOU LOOK EMOTIONALLY DRAINED.
WHEN YOU ONLY GET 4 MINUTES BETWEEN CLASSES YOU HAVE TO PACK IN A LOT.

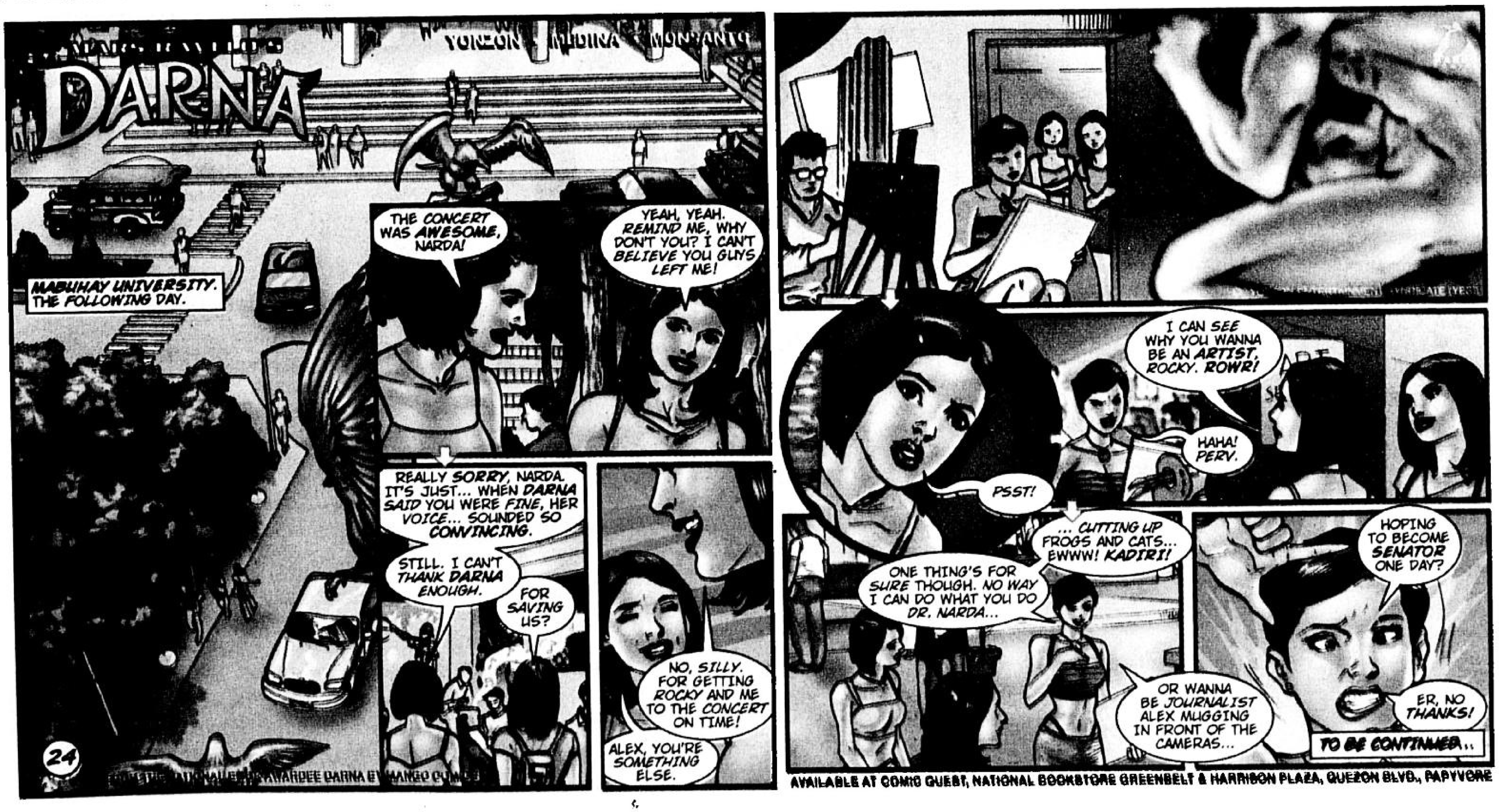
INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA


inday wanda
NAKU NAMAN! NAG-FEELING PA 'TONG SI WANDA! TIPO RAW SIYA NG MGA KANO DITO SA BEACH... NAG-POSING PA!
NAKATINGIN NA SI JOHN SMITH KAY POCAHONTAS! WOHOO!
BLOG CALIGUIA '05

DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS


DARNA
YONZON · MEDINA · MONTANTO
MABUHAY UNIVERSITY. THE FOLLOWING DAY.
THE CONCERT WAS AWESOME, NARDA!
YEAH, YEAH. REMIND ME, WHY DON'T YOU? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS LEFT ME!
REALLY SORRY, NARDA. IT'S JUST... WHEN DARNA SAID YOU WERE FINE, HER VOICE... SOUNDED SO CONVINCING.
STILL. I CAN'T THANK DARNA ENOUGH.
FOR SAVING US?
NO, SILLY. FOR GETTING ROCKY AND ME TO THE CONCERT ON TIME!
ALEX, YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE.
24
I CAN SEE WHY YOU WANNA BE AN ARTIST, ROCKY. ROWR!
HAHA! PERV.
PSST!
... CUTTING UP FROGS AND CATS... EWWW! KADIRI!
ONE THING'S FOR SURE THOUGH. NO WAY I CAN DO WHAT YOU DO DR. NARDA...
OR WANNA BE JOURNALIST ALEX MUGGING IN FRONT OF THE CAMERAS...
HOPING TO BECOME SENATOR ONE DAY?
ER, NO THANKS!
TO BE CONTINUED...
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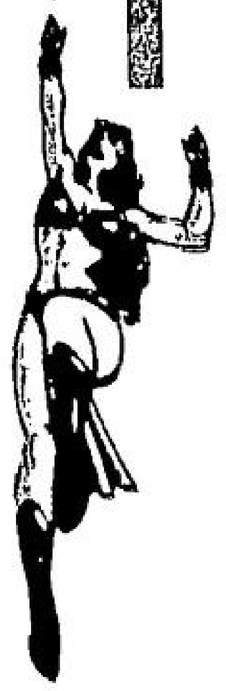
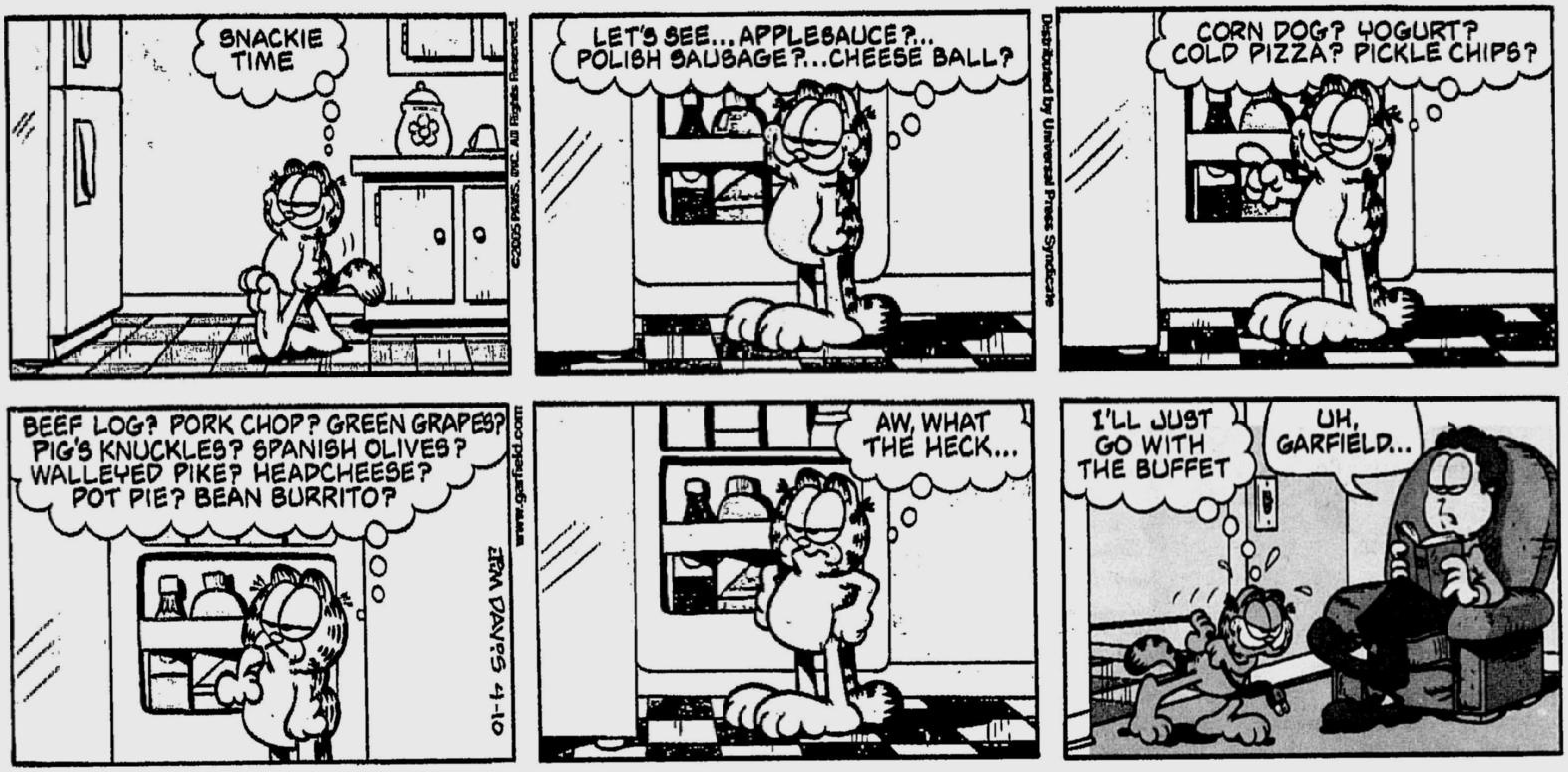


A.

FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS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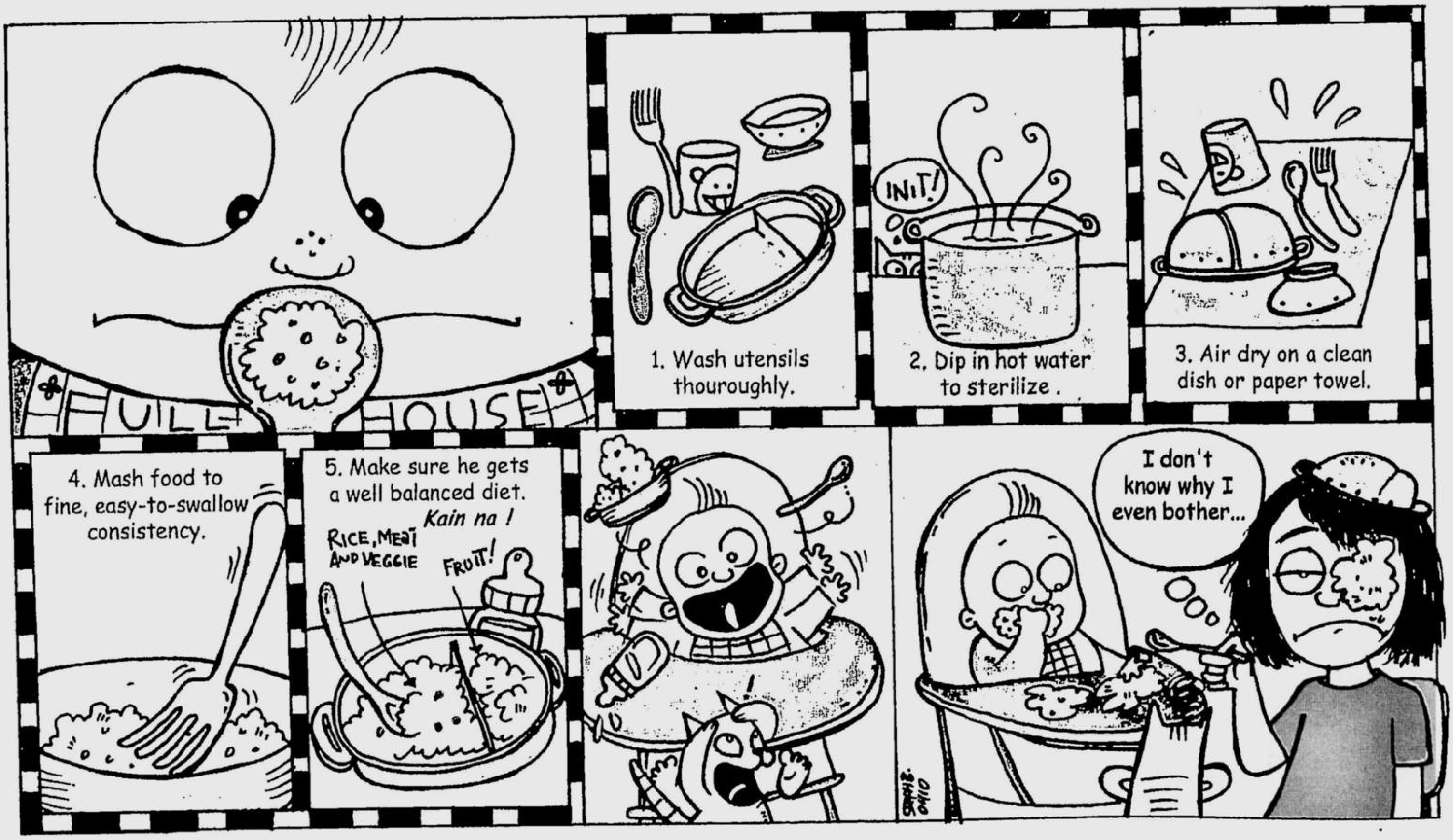
AW, WHAT THE HECK...
I'LL JUST GO WITH THE BUFFET
UH, GARFIELD...

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


FULL HOUSE
1. Wash utensils thouroughly.
INIT!
2. Dip in hot water to sterilize .
3. Air dry on a clean dish or paper towel.
4. Mash food to fine, easy-to-swallow consistency.
5. Make sure he gets a well balanced diet.
Kain na !
RICE, MEAT AND VEGGIE
FRUIT!
STEPH B. 0410
I don't know why I even bother...

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

Horgle and the spa mystery: A morality tale for vain mamas and metrosexual papas

How a big fat thing as a hippopotamus could be missing was a problem for the new wildlife minister to solve

From page H1

thin would make them beautiful. And some of them weighed 800 pounds! When they stepped on the weighing machines, all the springs broke. When they were told to eat only one can of special thinning food a day, they ate the cans, too! What could you do with creatures like those!

The ostriches liked best the steam baths. Ostrich necks were all folds and wrinkles which the steam baths promised to erase. Here's how the steam bath was prepared: there were six big barrels of boiling water with a fire going underneath each one. From the boiling water rose clouds and clouds of steam. The poor ostriches who wanted their wrinkles and folds removed stood on the rims of the barrels. Sometimes a sleepy ostrich fell into the barrel and got cooked. (And that night Mr. Mix-Mix had another ostrich to store in his fridge). Now if that isn't the most terrible thing to befall an ostrich!

There was an even greater number of boilings among the wild turkeys. This saved Mr. Mix-Mix from going to the grocery. For the barrels were washed just before the turkeys came. And somehow Mr. Mix-Mix always forgot to rinse the slippery soap off their rims.

But did this ever stop the other animals from going to the spa? Not at all! They were truly the vainest creatures! So, if you were lucky you came out beautiful and if you were unlucky you ended up boiled.

Free makeover

Once Mr. Mix-Mix offered Mamerto, the wise old turtle of the forest, a free beauty treatment. He thought it would be a good come-on to the smarter animals, like the foxes, who didn't go to the spa.

"Tsk, tsk," said Mr. Mix-Mix, viewing Mamerto's face closely. "Such crooked eyebrows! Such muddy eyes! I can make you look a hundred years younger."

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But Mamerto the turtle simply smiled. "I'd rather stay old, and ugly—and wise." Which was a lucky thing. For Mr. Mix-Mix didn't care a whit about making Mamerto the turtle beautiful. All he wanted was to tie up the old turtle and ship him abroad. Someone in Paris was paying good money for hundred-year-old turtles. They were supposed to make the best gourmet soup.

Sleuthing

Did the pretty pink unicorn with one horn growing out of her forehead go to the spa? Horgle decided to go to the spa and find out himself.

Mr. Mix-Mix's spa was made out of bamboo in the latest Balinese style. It had lotus ponds and sounds of dripping water and candles and all. But what he really wanted was to retire in Europe and live in his abandoned castle again.

Hesitantly, Horgle walked to the door. He was afraid the animals inside might think he wanted his hair curled. But he was the Minister of Wild Life and he had a job to do. Horgle decided to be brave and rang the doorbell.

A cute kangaroo opened the door. She had a ribbon in her hair. Her pocket was full of combs and brushes, curlers and scissors. "Good morning, ma'am/sir," she chirped. "Do you want your hair cut? Your wings brushed? Your star shined?"

"No, miss," laughed Horgle. "I've come to see your boss, Mr. Mix-Mix, the retired king."

The cute kangaroo gave Horgle some pumpkin seeds to munch and skipped away. Horgle sat on a chair cross-legged and looked around. There were skunks taking perfume baths. There were turkeys taking steam baths. A hyena was laughing his head off while having a ticklish massage. Some clams were having their shoes shined (services were varied). But the ostriches, Osang and Offie, Teodora the tiger, Xavier the peacock and Jasmin the hippo were nowhere around. Much less the missing unicorn.

Mr. Mix-Mix was counting the squirrel and mink tails and the parrot feathers in his private office when he heard Horgle, the Horse Eagle's voice. He knew in his bones that Horgle had learned about the missing animals. He began to be afraid. Quickly he swept everything into the desk drawer.

Before going out to the beauty shop, Mr. Mix-Mix decided to just answer "No" to every question asked of him. He was so nervous, however, that he tripped on a steam barrel and one of the smaller turkeys fell in. Hurriedly, Mr. Mix-Mix pushed the dead turkey under his shirt.

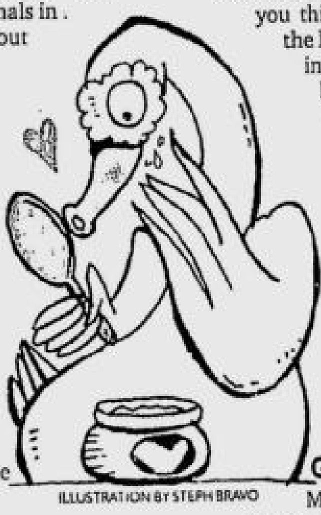
ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

"Good morning," said Horgle. "I'm looking for some missing animals in case you know something about them."

"Hot day, isn't it?" said Mr. Mix-Mix. His shirt was getting wetter and wetter. It began to drip on the floor. "My, I certainly am sweating," said Mr. Mix-Mix. One of the turkey's legs slipped out of his shirt. He pushed it up hurriedly.

Horgle glared at him. "Two ostriches have been missing for one week. Did they come to your spa?"

"No," said Mix-Mix.

"What about Teodora the tiger, did she drop by?"

"No, no," said Mix-Mix.

"A hippopotamus named Jasmin said she was coming by. Do you know anything about her?"

"No, no, no," said Mix-Mix.

"Humph," said Horgle. "Well, then. Did a pink unicorn come here?"

"No!" said Mr. Mix-Mix. He was beginning to shiver in his wet shirt.

"Do you know the punishment for kidnapping a unicorn?" asked Horgle.

"No," said Mr. Mix-Mix.

"Sixty-six years in prison for blue unicorns! Seventy-seven years for pink ones!"

"Oh no!" cried Mr. Mix-Mix. "Oh no!"

"What about the turkeys? Did any of them come to your spa?"

"No," Mr. Mix-Mix shook his head, "No, no."

"Are you telling me the truth?" asked Horgle.

"No!" shouted Mr. Mix-Mix. As soon as he had said this, Mr. Mix-Mix knew he was trapped.

"I thought so!" said Horgle. "You're under arrest!" But Mr. Mix-Mix jumped up and bolted into his private office. He locked the door and swallowed the key. He put the chairs and tables against the door. He put a pile of newspapers under the window then lit the newspapers with a match. Then he climbed up a ladder and went out on the roof.

Horgle walked to the door of the office and listened. Everything was quiet. "I give you 10 seconds to open that door," said Horgle, "before I break it down."

There was no answer. Horgle sniffed. A small curl of smoke crept out from under the door. Horgle, the brave Horse-Eagle, went into action. He gathered all his strength and broke the door down with two swift kicks.

Black smoke billowed out of the open door. Flames met Horgle left and right. Part of his wing was burned. The end of his tail caught fire and looked like a firecracker dancing at the end of a string. The cute kangaroo with a ribbon in her hair saw Horgle's burning tail. She took the scissors out of her pocket and snipped off the burning end. "That will be 50 cents," she said.

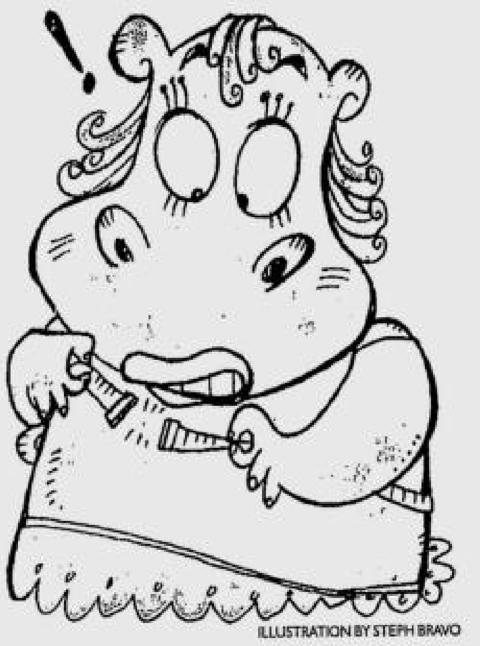
ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

It took some time before the fire could be put out.

Tied and trapped

When the smoke cleared, Horgle looked around the room. And this is what he found. Tied flat against the side of Mr. Mix-Mix's desk was the pink unicorn. The beautiful horn growing out of her forehead was full of broken pencils. Mr. Mix-Mix had been using the unicorn's horn as a pencil sharpener! Of all the most insulting things to do to a rare animal!

Gently, Horgle untied the unicorn. "There," said Horgle, the Horse-Eagle, "you're free now." But the unicorn did not say a word. Two big tears merely rolled down her beautiful eyes and splashed at Horgle's feet.

Teodora, the tiger, was lying at the door. Her mouth was all caved in. Mr. Mix-Mix had sent all her teeth to a witch doctor in Africa who wanted to make a magic necklace. Besides which, Teodora was being used as a doormat. Horgle found Xavier, the peacock, sobbing in a corner. His lovely long tail had been cut off and sent to a fan maker in Java. Osang and Offie (the ostriches) were in the ice box.

Mr. Mix-Mix was nowhere to be found.

Then Horgle heard a small cry, "help!" It seemed to come from inside the mixing machine. The mixing machine was black with soot. It began to tremble and sob. Horgle broke the big tin box open. And who do you think was inside? Poor Jasmin, the hippopotamus! The giant mixing spoon was tied to her small black tail. There was a slave ring around her nose. Across her side was painted in white: SLAVE.

Horgle gathered all the abused animals together and brought them out of the office. He told the cute kangaroo to look after them. The kangaroo massaged them, colored their hair, curled their tails and made a bill to give to Horgle.

Getting the villain

Meanwhile, Horgle the Horse-Eagle, had gone back to Mr. Mix-Mix's office. He looked behind the sofa and under the desk. He looked in the bookshelves. A pile of gold coins fell on top of his head. "Ouch!" said Horgle. The things people did for money!

Horgle pushed the gold coins aside with his foot. He heard footsteps on the roof. "I know you're up there, Mr. Mix-Mix," Horgle called out loud. "I'm tired of your tricks. Get down here before I go up there and smash you to bits."

Mr. Mix-Mix ran back and forth on the roof. He didn't know where to go. Mr. Mix-Mix did not see the snail sun-bathing on the roof. "Drat snail," said Mr. Mix-Mix as he slipped on it. The magician rolled and fell over the edge of the roof—right into his own tub of cream!

"MMmff, fffmmm," said Mix-Mix, stuck neck-deep in the Deep Secret Cream.

The tiger, the hippopotamus, the peacock, the ostriches, the skunks and the turkeys formed a parade and marched happily back to the sanctuary. (All except the unicorn who disappeared into the forest.) The cute kangaroo decided to come along to the sanctuary to put up her own spa there. Horgle personally deposited the tub of cream with Mr. Mix-Mix in it to the police precinct.

The Chief of Police locked Mr. Mix-Mix in jail. "Mmmfff, fffmmm," said Mr. Mix-Mix. Nobody had bothered to take him out of the tub of face cream.

That afternoon, Mamerto, the wise old turtle of the forest came to the jail. The animals thought he would say something wise. But all Mamerto did was reach into the tub. He scooped a bit of face cream and patted it on his eyebrows. After a while, Mamerto wiped the cream off with a leaf. His eyebrows were as crooked as ever. "Why, it doesn't even work," said Mamerto the turtle. And he walked sadly back into the forest.

This story is dedicated to Antipolo's MMLDC (Manolo M. Lopez Development Center) and its fabulous aviary. The story is part of a forthcoming children's book called "Bad Kings."

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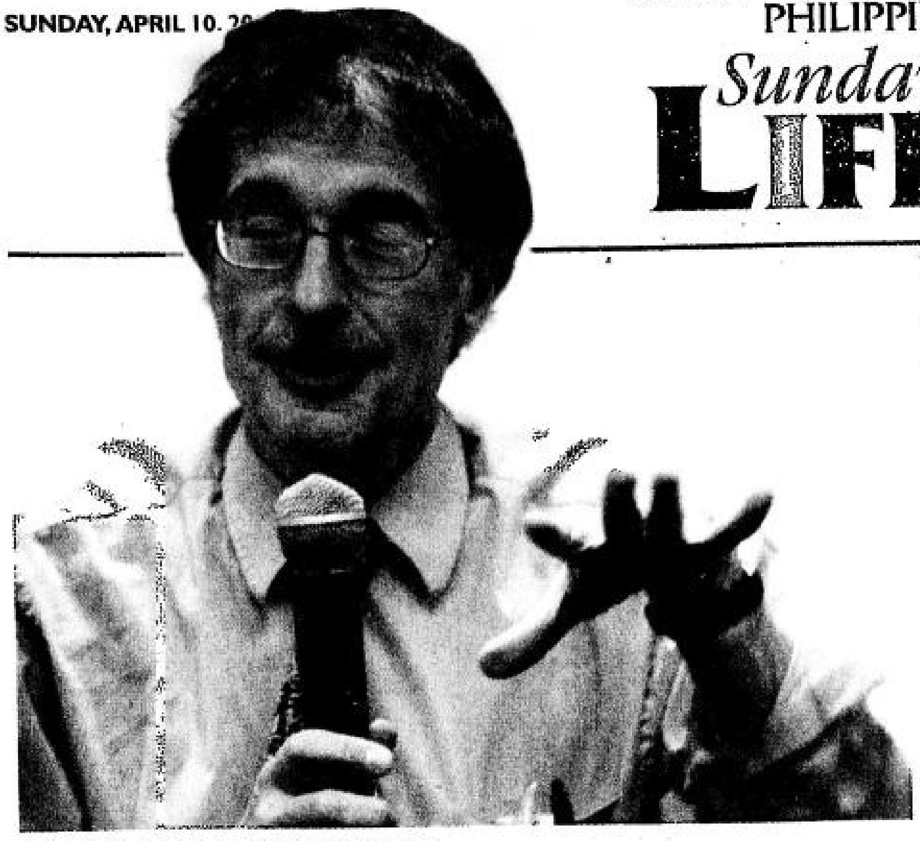

"**SYNTHESIZING** is what I think I do well."

Harvard psychologist and educator Howard Gardner talks about mining the mind in multiple ways

Investigating intelligence

PLAYTIME

INSTEAD of the usual Playtime, Lifestyle invited educators to field the questions to Dr. Howard Gardner, who was in town recently for the first Philippine convention on Multiple Intelligences (MI), his breakthrough theory on human intelligence.

The convention, "Changing Minds: Teaching and Parenting for the 21st Century," was organized by Joy Canon-Abaquin (JCA), founder and directress of Child's Place and M.I. International School, both of which have adopted the MI framework.

Gardner rejects the idea of central intelligence (nothing to do with the CIA). In simple terms, Gardner's theory advances that in teaching anything, a parent or a teacher can draw on a child's many intelligences, which are linguistic, logical-mathematical, bodily kinesthetic, spatial, musical, interpersonal and intrapersonal, and naturalist. To each his own learning style, in other words.

Gardner, a professor at Harvard University Graduate School of Education and director of Project Zero, has parlayed his theory into more than 20 books and hundreds of articles. Among his recent books are "The Disciplined Mind"; "Intelligence Re-

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Dr. Grace Shangkuan Koo, Dr. Paz Lucido, Dr. Howard Gardner, Joy Canon-Abaquin, Dr. Allan de Guzman, Dr. Honey Carandang, Jenny Mapua, Cathy Guballa and Sister Maria Lirio Guillermo. ROMY HOMILLADA

Investigating intelligence

From page 11

framed"; "Good Work: When Excellence and Ethics Meet"; " Changing Minds: The Art and Science of Changing Our Own and Other People's Minds"; and "Making Good: How Young People Cope with Moral Dilemmas at Work."

Three educators of future teachers joined this Playtime: Dr. Grace Shangkuan Koo (GSK), Lifestyle contributor and faculty member at the University of the Philippines College of Education, who has had the privilege of attending Dr. Gardner's class on Mind, Brain and Education at Harvard University; Dr. Allan de Guzman (AG), director of the Center for Educational Research and Development and a faculty member at the College of Education at the University of Santo Tomas; and Dr. Paz Lucido (PL), dean of the College of Education at Centro Escolar University, where, 10 years ago, she launched an inclusion program to accommodate students with disabilities at the tertiary level.

Dr. Honey Carandang, who teaches play therapy and marriage and family therapy at the University of the Philippines, managed to catch up with our discussions. Other participants included Sister Maria Lirio Guillermo (MLG), currently with the University of Santo Tomas where she is working for her Ph.D in educational management; Jenny Mapua (JM), who obtained her Masters in Educational Administration from the Ateneo de Manila University and now runs Second Mom school for nursery, toddler and preschool kids; and Cathy Guballa, editor of Health Today and Moms & Babies.

GSK: Dr. Lawrence H. Summers, the president of Harvard University, suggested that there's innate gender difference, such that women are lagging behind in science and math careers, for which comment he quickly apologized later, too quickly, I believe. In your studies, have you found gender differences among your so far eight-and-a half intelligences?

> The mind is better described as having 7, 8, 9, maybe a dozen different computers

Let me say a bit about President Summers. There were two issues: One was whether he was correct in suggesting some biologically based differences in the cognition of men and women, and, second, in the role of president, should he be making offhand comments like that? I think he got correctly chastised for shooting off his mouth without knowing very much (laughter).

There are of course gender differences in many measurements. The only reason there aren't any in the IQ test is because the IQ test has been put together, so it won't have gender differences. But if it had, for example, questions of verbal fluency, women would do better. If it had questions of manipulating spatial images in your head, then men would do better.

The question is—is the gender doing better because of some genetic difference, or does it have to do with culture, training, preferences and things like that? ... So his remark was out of place. The major effect of it would be to suggest that the president of Harvard is biased against women.

CBF: How is the application of MI in schools different from wholistic education?

MI is originally not an educational theory. It's a theory on how the mind is organized and developed. When people talk about general intelligence, the implication is there's one computer up here and that computer computes all kind of information. If you have a good computer, you're going to be good at everything, and if you've an average computer, you'd be average at everything, and if you've a lousy computer, you'd be stupid at everything. That's the default scientific view. Many people in the past have said, Well, that's too simple.

What I did 25 years ago was a massive synthesis of a lot of research, including brain research, evolutionary research, genetic research, and I said this notion of one computer doesn't cut it. It's not an accurate description of human cognitive capacities.

So I put forth this hypothesis that the mind is better described as having 7, 8, 9, maybe a dozen different computers, and everybody has all these computers. But there's no reason to think that everybody's musical computer is the same, or everybody's linguistic computer is the same—people have very jagged profiles. And that's true. I could talk tomorrow about Jose Rizal—he seemed to have had a lot of good computers (laughter)—but that's not typical. Most people have computers better than others and that's probably because of who their parents are and where they live and how they were trained.

What I didn't expect was that everywhere that people read about it, it's the educators who became interested.

You could say, Look, if there are eight intelligences, let's have eight different classes, let's teach everything eight different ways. You could say, If there are eight intelligences, let's take all the kids who are good in one intelligence and put them together. You could say, Let's take the kids who are lousy in one intelligence and put them together. None of that comes out of the theory.

I knew Richard Hernstein, who was the senior author of "Bell Curve"—that's the most famous book on IQ—and before he died, we had a conversation. We agreed that, let's say he was right that it's very hard to change IQ or IQ measures, you can draw two conclusions from that. Either it's very hard to change so don't try, or it's very hard to change so use all your efforts and maybe you'll discover you can change it.

PL: Can you share with us suggestions on how we can properly apply MI in special education inclusion programs? Has it been done before?

Interestingly, I don't have a special ed background, but one of the chief inputs to my theory was people who have brain damage who would lose one ability but not the other, thereby demonstrating that they were not tightly yoked—because if we were tightly yoked, we'd lose everything at the same time. You could lose your spatial ability or your language ability, while the other one would be perfectly fine.

But, not surprisingly, among the first people to find the theory useful were special educators, not only because they see people who have this very jagged profile. I think what people in special education are always challenged to do is to see whether they can teach something which they want the child to learn, but the usual more direct or simpler approaches don't work. So either you give up or you say, "How can I succeed with this child even when the usual ways of learning doesn't work?"

Reading problems are the ones that have been studied the most. Most kids, when they're seven years old, you give them some phonics training, you drill them in some words and they learn how to read—it's not a huge deal. But somewhere between 10 and 15 percent have more trouble learning how to read than anything else. They can learn counting okay or make music perfectly well. So then the question is: How do you mobilize the intelligences which are stronger to help the child learn how to read?

You know better than I that people have tried all sorts of things. It's not the case that one approach works for every child because children have different kinds of reasons for language problems. Sometimes it's visual, sometimes it's short-term memory, and you need intervention which is appropriate for the kind of reading problem that the child has.

PL: Right now we at the College of Education are responsible for training future teachers. We'd like to see the future education curriculum to evolve into a curriculum that is MI-centered. Can you give us tips on strategies and techniques to apply it to education?

MI, even if it were an educational theory rather than a psychological theory, is just a way of describing a profile of abilities at a certain historical moment. There's nothing educational that follows from that. So when someone says to me that they have an MI school, I say to them, What are you trying to achieve in your school? What are your goals?

You can say, I want the children to be creative, I want them to be ethical, I want them to have the basic literacies, I want them to have disciplinary understanding—you need to know what the goal of your school is. Anybody who tells me "all those goals," I don't take seriously because you have to prioritize something over others.

When you tell me what your educational goal is, that's when I can say, Well, how would you know if you've achieved it? What would the measures be? If you can answer that question, then we can have a conversation on how to use MI to help you achieve that educational goal. We can say, All right, now you've got 20 or 40 kids in the class, each with a different MI profile. Shall we ignore that or shall we take it seriously?

I travel around the world, I'm very fortunate. I've discovered that the goal of education all over the world is to improve the country's standing in international comparatives (laughter).

I've had people come up to me and ask how MI can help them improve their Pisa (Programme for International Student Assessment) standing. First, not all countries can achieve that goal. Second, what are the actual tests like? Third, and the most important, do you want the Philippines to be a country composed of people who do somewhat better in some test made somewhere else, or do you want the Philippines to be a country where people have certain understandings, certain social skills, certain patriotism, certain truthfulness?

In Joy's school, they ask, "What can I use that intelligence for to help the community?" I would much rather live in a country where that was the goal than "Take me to 27th Pisa by drilling."

AG: Aside from access, equity, quality and responsiveness, one of the problems of the education system is the problem of continuity. Every time there's a new government, there's always a new program introduced. In the 1980s they introduced values education. In the 1990s, it was content-based instruction. After 1990s, we even introduced the ICT to prepare our students toward a technological environment. Now we have MI. How does it fit into the existing modalities of instruction in the Philippines, considering the more programs are introduced, the more our teachers get confused? .

> If you don't have continuity in policy, improvement of teachers, and parental support and involvement, you cannot have a good educational system

I completely agree with your implied critique. The best education in the world is in places that have these three characteristics:

No. 1, it is non-partisan [which is] exactly what we don't have in the United States and the Philippines. In a country like Sweden, Hungary, Finland or Singapore, they don't change the educational system when a new person comes in. It's non-partisan, it's civil-service regulated.

No. 2, teaching is seen as a craft which develops over decades. There are good models around. Teachers watch the new models; they get critiqued and they get better and there's a place for master teachers. It's not closing your room for 40 years thinking you're getting better just because nobody's looking. (Laughter)

No. 3, parental involvement. It isn't in the sense that parents are teaching their children, though sometimes they can. It's parents showing that they take education very seriously. That is frankly why in Chinese society you have the best educational system. Parents are very involved in education.

If you don't have continuity in policy, good craft like improvement of teachers, and parental support and involvement, you cannot have a good educational system, even if you spend over a billion dollars doing randomized controls.

I am not, believe it or not, a promoter of MI schools or MI education. I don't want anybody to do it unless they want to do it. (Laughter) I believe that, ultimately, these ideas are never gonna win a plebiscite anywhere. (Laughter) But everywhere I go around the world, there are some people who find this a very powerful set of ideas.

When a principal comes into a school and says, "I want you teachers to do MI education from now on," the teachers should say "Why? Show us how, and show us why it should make a difference." If the principal can't do that, or if a policymaker can't do it, then I'd reject the notion.

For an MI education to become really established, you need to have decades-long commitment in what we call learning community.

The best schools in the world, in my point of view, are the schools for young children in Reggio Emilia in Italy. I have written extensively about them. They are the most studied schools in the world. And the reason they are good is not because of randomized controls—they don't even believe in experiments—but because the schools for years have had dedicated teachers who have learned together what young children could do. To me that's the model of what good education is.

MLG: Our congregation owns and runs more than 30 schools all over the Philippines, including in remote places. We were alarmed when we were called for training and seminars, and teachers were asked to make MI-based lesson plans. That was a very big problem because the principals themselves did not have training. What could be the best hub wherein the MI could be successfully implemented?

JA: I know where Sister is coming from. MI is not a curriculum, it's not a set of pedagogy, it's a framework. And how this framework gets translated to actual lessons for children, to actually training teachers, to talking to parents on what it is and how important it is so that they themselves advocate for the children in the same manner—that's how you slowly build your institution into an MI institution. The best thing is to have teachers first understand what it's all about, to sort of at least do the mind check that, when I stand before the children and teach in a certain way, everybody will learn it.

HG: This is the first time I've heard that the government inflicted MI on anybody. I don't believe in inflicting MI on anyone. (Laughter) And that's why I said, First of all, what are you trying to achieve for the students? If you're being successful, then don't change anything. If you're not successful, you might want to try something else which might include some MI ideas.

I think the best way to understand an MI approach is to think of a concept that's important but difficult to understand. Let's take democracy. It is important, right? The United States has decided to inflict it on the rest of the world whether it wants it or not. But if we ask you to define democracy it wouldn't be so easy. What's the best way to understand democracy? Probably not to think about it in one way.

Having an election in this room of who is going to be the leader of the group if we run out of the building because of a fire is one way to learn about democracy. Another way is to read about what happened in the Marcos era or see a movie about that. Another way is to study biology and see what happens when a powerful organism triumphs as opposed to when the less powerful gets rid of the powerful ones. These are all different ways of getting

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into democracy. If you had a teacher who knows about democracy and used a variety of what we call "entry points," most students will have a better understanding than to simply say democracy is a political system in which the forms of government are chosen by a ballot. The students could get a good grade but it doesn't mean when you discuss Iraq and say that they will be democratic from now on, they will have a clue of what you meant.

GSK: What Dr. Gardner should understand about the Philippine educational system is that whatever administrators and the bureaucracy in education read for just two hours, even if they don't really understand the concept, will have to be implemented by supervisors, and teachers will have to change lesson plans and so on. (Laughter)

I tried to develop a biological metaphor... MI is like a virus. (Laughter) And some viruses are good, and, in fact, to keep people from getting very sick you often need to get a little virus. But what we're trying to develop now are the right protections from viruses going crazy like cancer. Two that we came up with are: One, you can use multiple intelligence to help you reflect on how your school can change, not over days or weeks but over much longer periods of time. The Reggio schools in a Catholic area in Italy evolved over 40 years.

The other is: Goals aren't formed by MI ideas. The goals have to come from your values about what you want your children to grow up to be. If you can tell me what your goals are, then we can talk about how to use the MI ideas and frameworks to help you achieve your goals.

And as for lesson plans, as I've said a hundred times, it'll be ridiculous to teach everything eight ways (laughter). But the important idea is, almost anything can be taught in more than one way. And even if you can only teach it two ways, that's tremendously helpful to everybody. And if you can teach it only one way, you probably don't understand it very well.

GSK: In your book "Extraordinary Minds" you've called Mozart as the master, Freud as the maker, Virginia Woolf as the introspector, Gandhi as the influencer—and they all have extraordinary minds. Where would you place yourself? (Laughter)

I think what I am is something which I have not explained very well in MI theory, which is that I'm a good synthesizer. I can take a lot of information and put it together in different ways.

I have a new book that I'm working on, it's actually out in Spanish, but it's going to appear in English. It's called "Five Minds for the Future." One of those is the disciplined mind that I have written about. Another one is the creative mind, which I have also written about. The third one is what I think is terribly important for the 21st century, which is the synthesizing mind, because we are inundated with information, much of it very wobbly.

HC: Parents usually pressure the schools to give their children more of what we call academics—mathematical, logical and linguistic. For the past 30 years I've been saying to preschool parents, You have to look at your child in a total way and not just at the intellectual, emotional, physical, social, etc. It's really been difficult. It's a really difficult frame of mind or orientation to break or flip. Are parents the same in other countries?

I think it's not a Philippine-specific issue. But this is where journalism can make a difference. To the extent that when journalism writes about education, it simply talks about where you are in the international comparisons and only reports what they call "lead cables" in Britain—you know, how every school relates to every other school on some test. I think journalists are guilty of treating education as if it was football—you know, who won the championship.

MI ideas are in no way antithetical to good quality education, but what I recognize, as I think you do, is, one, if you want everyone to be scientifically literate there are many ways to achieve that, and lecturing from textbooks is not even the best way. It's just the habitual way. So that's one point.

Two, if you aren't particularly aca-

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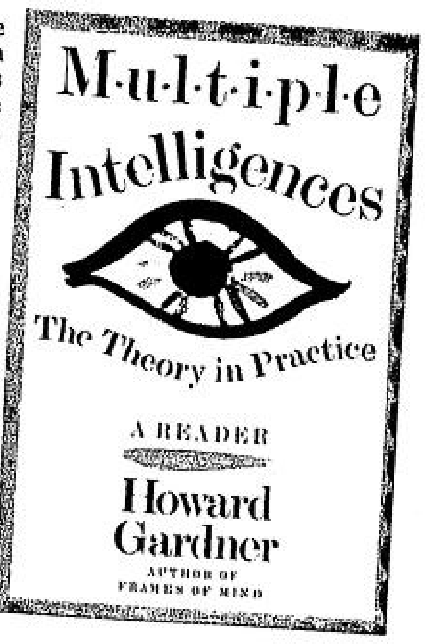

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85% of PNP "Reduce Weight Program" participants successfully lose weight

85% of police officers enrolled in the weight reduction program of the Philippine National Police reported significant success after a month of exercise, diet and medical treatment.

Out of the 65 active participants of the program, 55 reported positive results based on improved body mass index measurements.

The successful participants lost an average of 2 pounds per week, which is the doctor-recommended healthy weight loss progress.

Traditionally known to have potbellies, the police officers who joined the program expressed satisfaction that their waistline significantly decreased after a month's effort to reduce weight.

SPO3 Ranny Rañada from the TMG Motor Division of the Philippine National Police shares how the shift from big motorcycles to sports bikes changed how he sees himself and his performance on duty.

"I used to ride bikes bigger than me in thief chases or political escorts. It was only until I reduced weight significantly that I began to shift riding from big bikes to sports bikes and realized the enjoyment of feeling lighter and looking better," Rañada said in an interview. SPO3 Rañada is among the satisfied participants in the PNP Reduce Weight Program that aims to address the challenges of weight reduction and maintenance for members of our national police force.

"I lost 11 pounds and 8 inches of waist circumference in a month," said SPO3 Rañada. "My boss is happy about it. My wife is happy about it. I am happy about it."

Under the supervision of PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao, the PNP is undertaking this campaign in partnership with Abbott Laboratories to facilitate and assist PNP participants in a medically supervised, three-point weight reduction program.

Exercise and diet

The program combines the traditional exercise and diet regimen with Pharmacotherapy – a weight reduction medication manufactured and distributed by Abbott laboratories.

Dr. Alexander Co, police senior inspector of PNP Health Service, explained that aside from exercise and diet, the use of Pharmacotherapy plays a crucial role in the initial success of the reduce weight program of the national police.

"The program strictly follows a consistent regimen of healthy diet, physical activity, supported by medical treatment," said Dr. Co.

The weight reduction program participants undergo a bi-weekly, one-hour class on aerobic marathon and Taebo.

In support of this exercise, Abbott also gives the policemen a series of lectures on how to control their eating habits by choosing a low calorie diet.

'Shaping up' the police

The PNP continuously embarks on a personal health advocacy campaign to inculcate among members of the PNP the importance of health maintenance thru proper diet, regular exercise, healthy lifestyle and, if necessary, medications to maintain proper weight or control obesity.

PNP Chief Superintendent Adolfo Avenido said "the problem on obesity in the police force needs to be addressed to make our policemen more efficient in the performance of their duties."

For his part, Abbott Laboratories General Manager Mr. Edwin Feist said, "the results have been very encouraging. The PNP is assured of Abbott's continued support in firming up our policemen."

Abbott Laboratories Nutritionist and Fitness Instructor, Kathleen Ngitngit leads the PNP participants in an aerobic marathon during PNP's "Reduce Weight" Program.

After a month with the Abbott and PNP Reduce Weight Program, SPO3 Ranny Ranada of TMG, PNP witnesses his 11-pound weight loss and 8-inch waist reduction.

Investigating intelligence

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demically organized it's pretty hard to go through life thinking that you're stupid. (Laughter) It's very important that you have ways in which your contributions can be recognized, both through projects in schools and through skills and talents that you might have.

Third of all, at the end of the day, the question is not who has the highest score in some international comparative but what kind of society do you want to live in. America is by far the most affluent society in the world, but it's by no means the happiest. In many ways, people are very stressed, and, you know, we now have an imperial complex which the rest of the world is paying for. And so the fact that people have more cars— that's not what they look at in Reggio Emilia, that's not what they look at in Sweden. When people ask me if there's any part of the world that I think has worked these things out better, those are the two parts of the world that I say.

If you want parents to change their minds, that's a fairly long process, and the media and political policymakers can either help in the mind change or they can make it worse.

I'll tell you a funny story. I was awakened at 6 a.m. in September by the BBC. And they said, "Big news in Britain. The students' test scores have gone up and the minister says it's because the teachers use MI. Would you appear on the radio?" (laughter)

On the air— it was in the evening so it must have been like middle day for the United States— I said, "Look, I'm happy to take the credit if the test scores are up, but I'm not gonna take the blame if they go down." (Laughter)

There's such a huge gap between any particular program government puts in and how the schools are, and then there's a huge gap between how the schools are and how the country is doing.

I mean, everybody thought Japan had the ideal educational system in the world in 1980s and then it promptly went into a 10-year economic funk, and it wasn't the schools' fault. It's because what it takes to be successful in any criteria in this world is very complicated.

HC: I wonder about the adolescents and the barrage of information that they get. There's no quiet moment for these youths. I wonder if there's an intelligence that discriminates or sifts through or knows what to absorb and what not to absorb.

I call that wisdom (laughter). I'm serious. And I think most young people have it.

HC: I think all children have it, but when they become adolescents they lose it (laughter). It seems to me very important, in many ways, not just in academics. It's really a big thing since the media are a most powerful factor in Filipino life. With the barrage of media on the adolescents, how must we take these distractions?

When I mentioned before what a good educational system needs, I meant to mention some control over the media. That doesn't necessarily mean censorship; it could mean parental control. But I think the media are very damaging for the children for the reasons that you've indicated. Yet, we don't outlaw them— that's not the solution.

I don't think that it's reasonable to expect that children will be able to make the kind of discriminations that you talked about. Most adults can't either (laughter).

I'm very influenced, as you may know, by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi. He's the next person you should try to get here, the person who writes about flow. He wrote the "Flow Room" and the "Flow Course" at the Mother Intelligence International School. What he says is human beings invest their attention and spend their time on things which can be completely enveloping, really absorbing, so you lose time and space and so on. The happiest people in the world are the ones who get those activities where they could get better at, whether it's playing an instrument or playing sports or doing history or mountain-climbing or playing chess or whatever.

Unfortunately, too many children and too many families don't have the discipline to develop those faculties. And that's where the media come in, and they're kind of the lowest common denominator. So people do video games or watch television and so on because they don't grow in chess or in singing or something like that.

But the research that's exceptional indicates that, ultimately, absorption in the media is depressing. The more you watch, the more depressed you get. Also, the more you watch, the less knowledge you have about the society because, of course, the media are not an accurate description [of what's real]. So people who watch television think murderers and criminals sprawl on the street but even in the Philippines that's not true, right? (laughter)

CBF: You'd be surprised. (laughter)

... Similarly, they accept things like weapons of mass destruction that they hear a lot of in the media, even though all evidence suggest there were no weapons of mass destruction. (Laughter)

So this is where biological evolution ends and the cultural evolution has the option to begin. We can create the kind of society which we want—educationally, media-wise, social responsibility-wise and so on. But it's an uphill battle because biology doesn't help out. Biology says, you know, the four Fs—fight, flight, food and, well, intercourse. (Laughter)

Dr. Gardner, with students from an MI school in Manila WWW.HOWARDGARDNER.COM

JM: The Philippines has, according to studies, a very high literacy rate. Yet we remain to be a Third World. Would you point to the educational system as the culprit? The way we learn things, perhaps? Or the way we apply things?

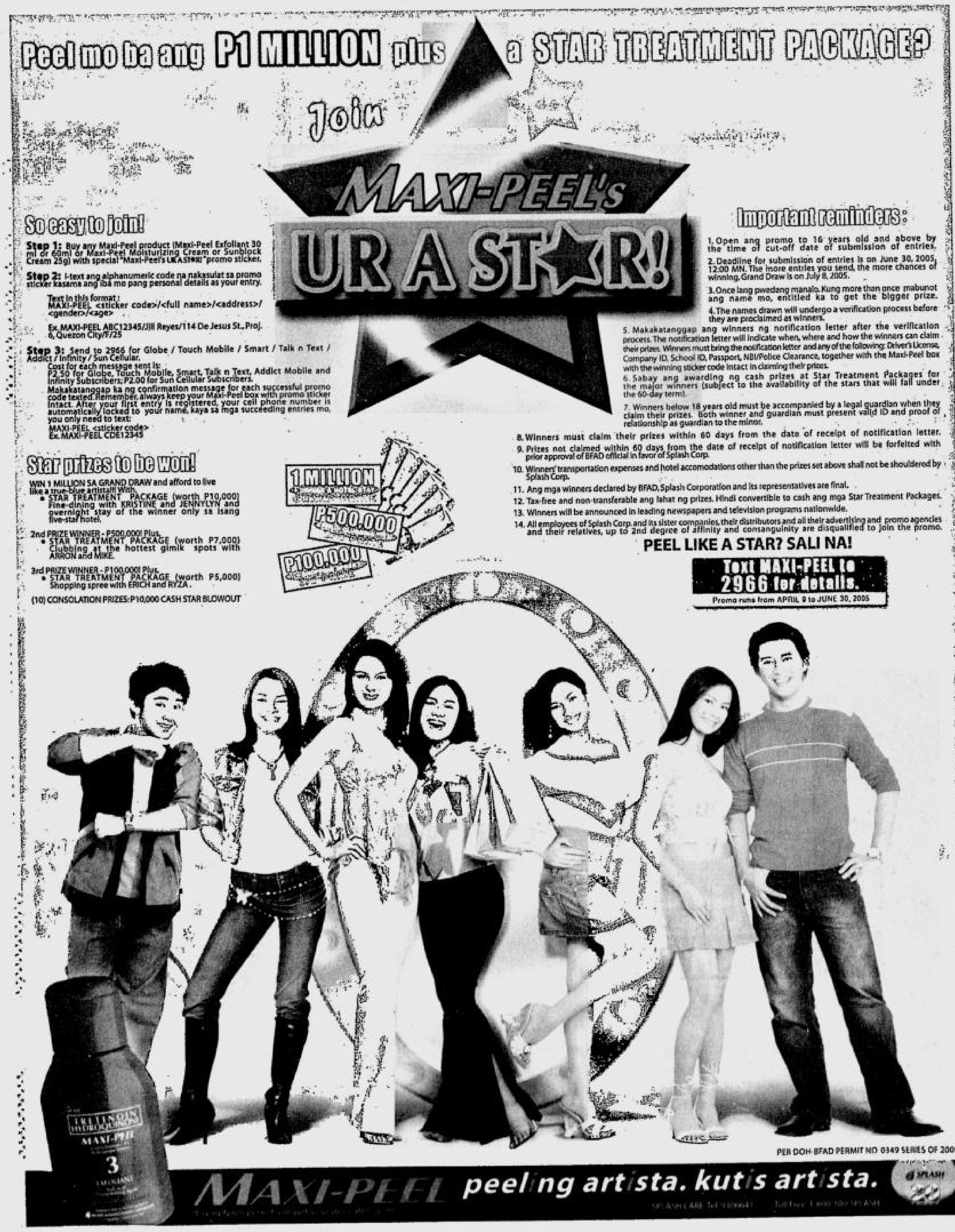
I think it's great that you have a high literacy rate. When Joy told me that people actually read the newspaper here, I was very pleased. In America people read almost nothing anymore. It's an entirely different thing to read on the Web than it is to read the newspaper or a book. I think you should cherish the fact that you have a high literacy rate. But I guess I would want to know what the indices of literacy are. I would want to know what people are reading, because there's lot of things that aren't very educational.

I think in some sense, you might want to ask why the Philippines is more like Latin America and less like the tigers in Asia. I would imagine that it's something in your political system and something in your cultural heritage.

PL: There are many students in graduate school now who are writing dissertations on MI. Maybe the result of this interest would lead to the application of MI in our education system. Congratulations, Dr. Gardner, for revolutionizing the Philippine educational system. (laughter)

First of all, it is flattering to see my pictures and posters (laughter). It's very heartening to think that people are studying it and trying to apply it. I think the reason the theory became popular is ... well, there are two reasons. My reason is it's popular because you can summarize the claims in one sentence. And my irreverent student says that the reason it's popular is that you could say that you're doing it but you're not doing anything different. (laughter)

But what has clearly impressed me, and what I'd never have anticipated, is that the ideas are very rich. They are very rich theoretically and they are very rich practically. Even if I had died in 1983 after publishing the book, if people had taken the ideas seriously they would have been able to go much more deeply into it than I had.



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Cost for each message sent is:
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Important reminders:

1. Open ang promo to 16 years old and above by the time of cut-off date of submission of entries.
2. Deadline for submission of entries is on June 30, 2005, 12:00 MN. The more entries you send, the more chances of winning. Grand Draw is on July 8, 2005.
3. Once lang pwedeng manalo. Kung more than once mabunot ang name mo, entitled ka to get the bigger prize.
4. The names drawn will undergo a verification process before they are proclaimed as winners.
5. Makakatanggap ang winners ng notification letter after the verification process. The notification letter will indicate when, where and how the winners can claim their prizes. Winners must bring the notification letter and any of the following: Driver's License, Company ID, School ID, Passport, NBI/Police Clearance, together with the Maxi-Peel box with the winning sticker code intact in claiming their prizes.
6. Sabay ang awarding ng cash prizes at Star Treatment Packages for the major winners (subject to the availability of the stars that will fall under the 60-day term).
7. Winners below 18 years old must be accompanied by a legal guardian when they claim their prizes. Both winner and guardian must present valid ID and proof of relationship as guardian to the minor.
8. Winners must claim their prizes within 60 days from the date of receipt of notification letter.
9. Prizes not claimed within 60 days from the date of receipt of notification letter will be forfeited with prior approval of BFAD official in favor of Splash Corp.
10. Winners' transportation expenses and hotel accomodations other than the prizes set above shall not be shouldered by Splash Corp.
11. Ang mga winners declared by BFAD, Splash Corporation and its representatives are final.
12. Tax-free and non-transferable ang lahat ng prizes. Hindi convertible to cash ang mga Star Treatment Packages.
13. Winners will be announced in leading newspapers and television programs nationwide.
14. All employees of Splash Corp. and its sister companies, their distributors and all their advertising and promo agencies and their relatives, up to 2nd degree of affinity and consanguinity are disqualified to join the promo.

PEEL LIKE A STAR? SALI NA!

Text MAXI-PEEL to 2966 for details.
Promo runs from APRIL 9 to JUNE 30, 2005

PER DOH-BFAD PERMIT NO 0349 SERIES OF 2005

MAXI-PEEL
COMBINES THE STARS
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IN ONE COMMERCIAL

Competition between giant TV networks ABS-CBN and GMA 7 is like the clash of the Titans: unstoppable and fierce. Putting their respective stars together would be a hard, if not almost impossible task but what's this news that Starstruck survivors Jennylyn, Mike and Ryza and SCQ Grand Questors Erich and Arron star together in one commercial?

What?? Tsismis lang ba 'to??

Apparently not! Maxi-Peel proudly brings you the union of these gigantic young stars in the latest commercial from the same brand that brought Kristine Hermosa to her famous "peeling-artista" stardom. Not even the rivalry between ABS-CBN and GMA 7 can stop Maxi-Peel from pursuing this big venture of launching Jennylyn, Mike, Ryza, Arron and Erich as their newest endorsers! Who would've thought they could be seen in a single ad, but it's true! Maxi-Peel has made it come true!

It's a feat no other brand has tried before. The number one exfoliant in the country has triumphantly brought together stars from the rival networks to work and - guess what - have fun together!!

The latest Maxi-Peel commercial ushered in a great bonding time among the six. Imagine, Arron, Mike, Erich, Ryza, Jennylyn and Kristine sharing dressing rooms while swapping secrets, teasing one another to no end, dishing out tips on just about anything and of course, talking about their greatest common denominator: the glitz and glamour of being an artista! What used to be rivals are now a happy barkada!

And this newly-formed showbiz barkada is out to give everyone a chance to be just as glitzy and starry as them! Mike, Arron, Ryza, Erich, Jennylyn and Kristine used to be ordinary teenagers who dreamt big and now that they've made it to the top, it's their turn to make everyone's dream come true through MAXI-PEEL'S UR A STAR! It's a text-based consumer promo that doesn't only grant cash prizes, it also gives you a chance to experience the very life our young rising stars are living right now. Truly a promo that shells out the best of both worlds!

Get this: a whopping P1M awaits the first-prize winner who also wins a hotel accomodation plus fine-dining experience with ABS-CBN's darling Kristine Hermosa and GMA 7's lovely Jennylyn Mercado. Can't choose between Mike and Arron? Then be the second-prize winner and party with both, and have we mentioned that you have P500,000 to go with that? Erich and Ryza can't wait to bring the third-prize winner to shopping, now that she's P100,000 richer!

Money and stardom aren't as far-fetched as you've initially thought now that MAXI-PEEL'S UR A STAR is itching to make your fantasies come to life! Mike, Arron, Ryza, Erich, Jennylyn and Kristine aren't as unreachable as you've imagined them to be, now that you can have this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet and be friends with them! Just join in the promo and see your dream uncurl into reality!

Because you see, nothing is impossible. Maxi-Peel has proven that by creating a one-of-a-kind consumer promotion and bringing together the cream of the crop from rival talent search competitions in a commercial conceptualized and produced by ad agency AB Communications, Inc. Now prove it and join MAXI-PEEL'S UR A STAR! It's your turn to peel like a STAR!

Grand night of high fashion

JAMES Ferragamo, grandson of the brand's founder Salvatore and an heir to the fashion empire, will grace the affair.

HAVING done Milan, London and Paris, the Salvatore Ferragamo Spring/Summer 2005 Collection comes to Manila in a gala show that promises to echo the same sparkling chic that the style capitals of the world are witness to whenever high fashion takes to the catwalk.

Globally regarded as one of the most illustrious fashion houses to come from Italy, Salvatore Ferragamo signifies both seductive glamour and classical elegance, whether in tapered tops and flamboyant bottoms or quirky bags and refined shoes.

This event comes under the auspices of Italian Ambassador Umberto Colesanti.

On April 18, 6 p.m., Salvatore Ferragamo Italia, S.P.A., Globe Platinum and Stores Specialists Inc. present the Ferragamo Spring/Summer 2005 Collection in an invitational gala dinner show at Harbor Garden, Westin Philippine Plaza's new tented ballroom flanking the picturesque Manila Bay.

Bringing an exciting personal touch to this invitational gala event is James Ferragamo, grandson of the brand's founder Salvatore and an heir to the fashion empire, who will grace the affair. James is the merchandising coordinator of the company.

Excess funds from the sponsorship will go to the PIA Endowment Fund, which promotes trade and cultural ties between the two countries. The PIA also runs community support programs that vary from providing opportunities for talented Filipino artists to study abroad, to financing poverty alleviation projects in Metro Manila through Italian missionaries working here.

Bringing music to the evening will be the celebrated Makiling Ensemble with its eclectic sounds, and the soulful renditions of popular ethnic vocalist Grace Nono.

The Salvatore Ferragamo Spring/Summer 2005 Collection is presented in cooperation with The Westin Philippine Plaza, Ralph's Wines and Spirits, Incanto Dream Parfum and Motorola.

The Salvatore Ferragamo Spring/ Summer 2005 Collection comes to Manila after conquering Milan, London and Paris

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CAT OF WEALTH
This cat started its fame in Japan until it became famous worldwide. Its left paw invites customers, money and good fortune. Its right paw holds money already acquired. Its face projects intelligence and happiness.
MIRACLE TEA POT
Your order is my command! Make a wish and it may be granted.
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God of Wealth
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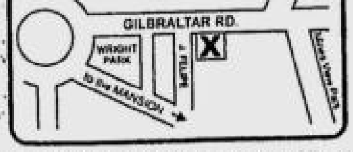

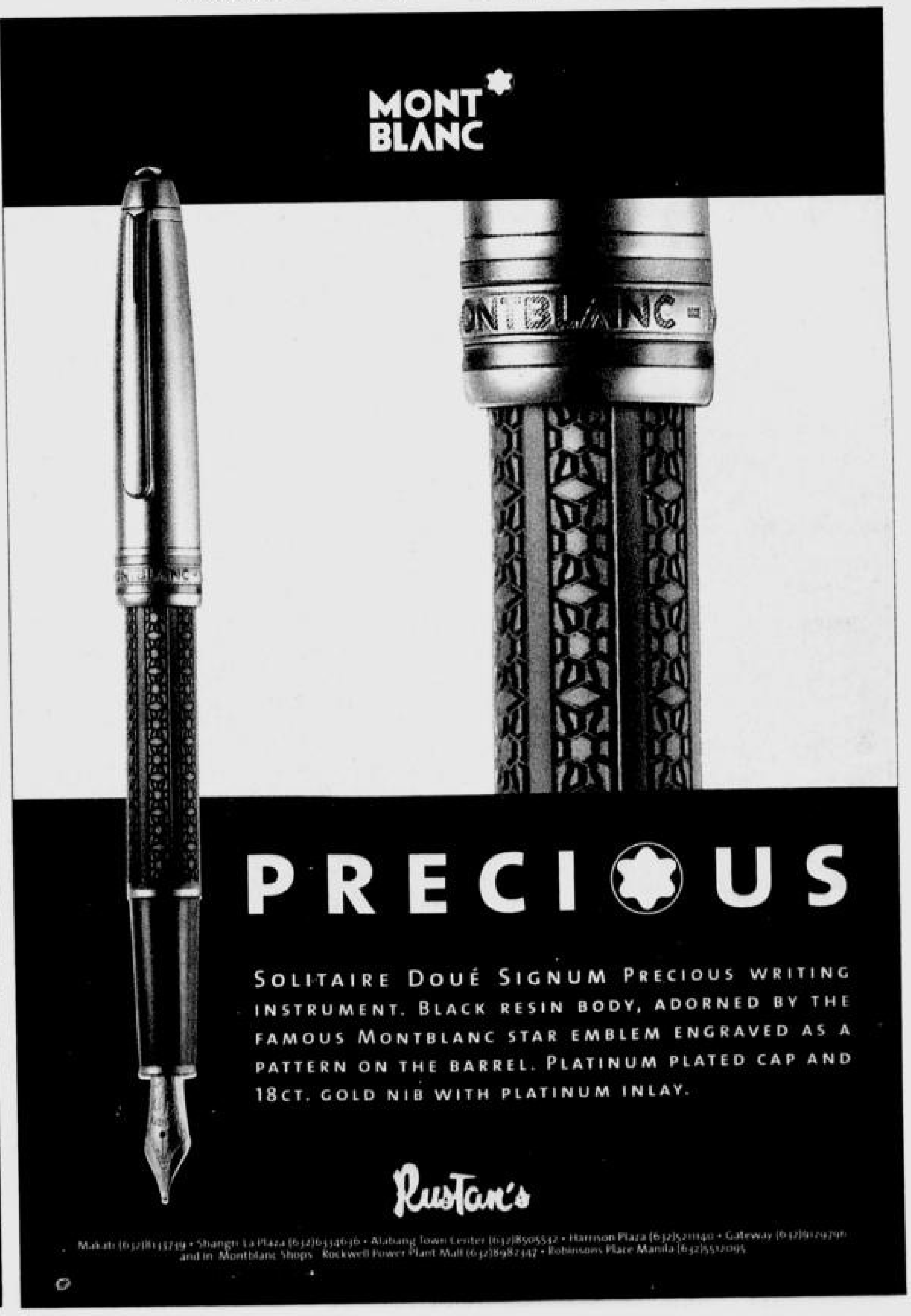
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Should it be a costly city college for the newly-graduated high school students? Or would the local college within the neighborhood do? Or would it be better for them to learn something more practical, like basic computer, nursing or seamanship courses?

According to the Commission on Higher Education, more than 3 million students are expected to troop to college for school year 2005-2006. Of this number, 74 percent will be enrolled in private higher educational institutions (HEIs) while the remaining 26 percent will enter the various state universities and colleges (SUCs).

Another academic year has just ended but would-be college students, with the help of their parents, are already contemplating what school would be best for them to enroll in. The usual feeling is that if they make it to the top institutions of the country, everything would be alright and their future is secured.

But then, there are several other schools which are as good as the more popular colleges and universities in Metro Manila, especially for specialty courses. The more important issue nowadays is not having to enroll in expensive schools to get the best education but to choose the appropriate school that could help train the young minds in specific disciplines.

If students are thinking short-term, like getting a job immediately after a two-year college course, then basic computer programming and development, seamanship, caregiver or technical and vocational courses would be very helpful. But for those who wish to become professionals in the future, choosing the appropriate college would require some thinking.

Getting Quality Education

A school need not be an expensive one in order to get the proper training for a life in the future. For young people to succeed in their chosen callings, the more important thing is how they could apply what they have learned and not just where they come from.

In this respect, getting quality education is important. And how does one determine which school is offering the kind of education relevant to the aptitude and skills of the student?

Just because one school often produces topnotchers in the bar exam does not mean it is a good school in other areas of discipline. Some colleges may be good in the arts and humanities, but not as competent in the sciences. Others may be very efficient in computer engineering, but does not do as well in media and communication arts.

For this reason, the very first thing that a student should consider in choosing the college or university where he or she wishes to enroll in should be the quality of the course being offered, not just the reputation of the school alone.

Thanks to the CHED's Center of Excellence and Development (CED) program, various schools all over the country have been identified as very strong in specific disciplines and are thus being supported to maintain their positions of leadership in the educational field.

There are presently 271 CEDs nationwide, 94 of which are in Metro Manila, 21 in the Central Visayas and 18 in Northern Mindanao. Other centers are well distributed in other regions. Information Technology comprise the most number of CEDs at 24, followed by teacher education at 21; civil engineering, 19; electrical engineering, 16; and biology, mechanical engineering and business administration at 14 each; among others.

Thus, getting an engineering degree in a CED in the province can actually be as good as, if not better than, getting the same degree from an expensive college or university in Metro Manila.

Improving Quality of Teaching

To improve the quality in all colleges and universities nationwide, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has a program to strengthen the academic backgrounds of teachers. For college teachers to be promoted or be eligible for more benefits, they must have a master's degree in the field in which they teach. The target is to double the proportion of faculty with MA/MS degrees, from

Turn to J-3

CHED OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR COLLEGE TEACHERS

CHED scholarships will be available to some 870 full-time faculty members of universities and colleges nationwide to pursue graduate degrees in a variety of fields, including English, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Mathematics, Information Technology and Engineering on a full-time or part-time basis.

Dr. Jean C. Tayag, director-in-charge of the Commission on Higher Education Faculty Development Program said CHED would also pay for teachers who will be hired as substitute of full-time scholars. The program seeks to upgrade the academic qualifications of tertiary faculty to master's and doctorate degree levels which is hoped to contribute directly to the application of better teaching methods in the delivery of education.

Qualified for the scholarship are full-time Filipino college faculty of Philippine universities and colleges, with no master's degree, with good academic record, not more than 47 years old, in good health and no criminal record.

Applicants should apply directly to the universities and colleges offering the CHED College Faculty scholarships. More information about this scholarship is available at http://www.ched.gov.ph and at the CHED Regional Offices or CHED Central Office at telephone number (02) 632-7860 and 637-5157.

MITC launches new program in July

Mapua IT Center, 2004 TESDA achievement awardee for IT sector, will launch its Digital Arts and Design on July 2005.

The program aims to equip the students with strong theoretical and practical applications highlighting the various domain of digital arts and design focusing on graphic design, web design, digital animation and film and video. At the end of the program, students are assigned to companies relevant to their specialization. Students are guaranteed of an actual learning experience and application in these companies.

In commitment to academic excellence, MITC aligns curriculum to industry requirements through partners aside from the pool of trainers who are industry practitioners.

Digital Arts and Design brings together creativity and passion, technology and art combined. Free orientation is scheduled every Saturday beginning April 9, 2005. For inquiries, please call 891-0713, 891-0637 or 891-0878 or via email at inquiries@mitc.com.ph

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MODULE E: *Environmental Education*

Module A: May 9, 9:00 am–4:00 pm)
Modules B-E: May 10-14, 9:00 am–4:00 pm)

For further inquiries, contact:
The Research & Academic Development Office
Tel.#:6247686 -89 local 290/291
email: richard.pulmones@ssc.edu.ph
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ADMISSION FOR ALL LEVELS FOR SY 2005-2006 is on-going.

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WHICH SCHOOL.... from J-2

about 35 percent to 70 percent by 2010.

The **National Higher Education Research Agenda (NHERA)** is also being undertaken to promote, encourage and support research in Philippine higher education institutions.

After being launched in 1998, three conferences and three workshops have been held to discuss the researches in various regions of the country to accelerate the importance of research for national, regional and institutional development.

Another program is to weed out poor-performing schools. In fact, Congress has gotten into the act with Reps. Eulogio Magsaysay and Imee Marcos filing House Bill 233 calling for sanctions against fly-by-night schools that operate without permits from DepEd or the CHED.

The CHED has already ordered the abolition of these diploma mills including 133 academic programs in 115 colleges and universities in the country. In terms of programs, 79 or more than half of these programs were on accounting and business administration.

This was followed by teaching for the elementary and high school, which totaled 28 programs. Other programs ordered abolished included physical therapy, engineering, nutrition, among others.

These diploma mills which had their programs abolished were well distributed throughout the country, with 20 schools from Metro Manila, 13 from Region 4; 12 from the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao; 10 from Region 3; and 8 from the Bicol Region.

These diploma mills, incidentally, also account for a huge

Turn to J-4

DONORS GIVE P643.5 M, P38.4 M PLEDGE FOR "SAGIP ESKWELA"

Sec. Abad donating goods at Infanta, Quezon.

Barely a few weeks after the Department of Education (DepEd) launched "Sagip Eskwela," a project designed for the immediate restoration of 1,500 school buildings damaged by four typhoons that hit the country, a total of P643,586.75 million in cash and P38,460,000 million in pledges have been received by the department.

This was announced by Education Secretary Florencio "Butch" Abad during the "Sagip Eskwela" Task Force meeting at the department.

The Task Force on Finance reported that their collections come from the following donor: Division of Pagadian City, DepEd-Region VIII, Hiyas Banking Corporation, Philippine Veterans Bank, Southern Philippine Millenium Multi-purpose Cooperative (SPMMPC), the Division Superintendent of Sultan Kudarat, Alberto A. Lim-Memorial Foundation Makati City, and Ma. Lourdes V. Matoco. Books have also been donated by Reader's Digest Far East, Ltd.

Meanwhile, the pledges come from the Australian Government through Australian Ambassador Ruth Pearce, Coca-Cola Foundation, GMA Kapuso Foundation, Imagimax, Intel Foundation, Juan Lualhati Cojuangco Foundation, Luis H. Lim Foundation, Mirant Philippines Foundation, Petron Foundation, Consuelo Foundation, Premium Deposit Insurance Association, Reader's Digest, STI Colleges, UNICEF and the United Teachers Credit Cooperative.

Secretary Abad was pleased with the immediate support from both international and domestic groups and civic-oriented individuals. "We are very happy with the immediate support that Sagip Eskwela has already received," he said. "We are confident that more groups will pitch in and help get our hardest-hit schools back on their feet."

He expressed confidence that more people would step up their aid in helping the schoolchildren in the damaged schools.

The "Sagip Eskwela" fund raising campaign will continue until February 18. Donations can be made after this date, but DepEd encourages the public to make their donations and pledges soon to expedite the rehabilitation of damaged schools.

GCIC GUNS FOR RECOGNITION

Global City Innovative College (GCIC) marked its 3rd anniversary with a flourish last February 2005. At a relatively young age of three years, GCIC has many reasons to celebrate as it guns for recognition from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

From its humble beginnings in 2002, GCIC has grown and evolved into a top-notch academic hub, aiming to make its students truly global in outlook and competence. Its unique setting offers high-class facilities like centralized air-conditioning, IT systems and facilities, a comprehensive library and well-equipped laboratories. Enriched academic and training programs in its curriculum increases its graduates chances of getting hired or passing local and international licensure exams. In GCIC's quest for recognition, more innovations are imminent including interim arrangements for international skills exchange, further IT enhancement of its curriculum and additional course offerings. And by recruiting only the best and the brightest for its faculty and staff, GCIC ensures the quality of its most precious asset: Human Resources. All of these services for incredibly reasonable tuition fees.

This year marks another milestone as the pioneer class of BS Nursing students enters their senior year, and GCIC is supremely confident that the first batch of students will bring honor to the institution in professional exams as well as in their chosen career.

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number of students enrolled. Due to their low standards, a bulk of the students go on to graduate but end up jobless because either they could not pass the professional licensure exams or simple interviews.

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FEU BOARDTECH TEAM WINS IN HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL TILT

The entrepreneurial world champions of FEU – Dianna Chebat, Michael Morro, Prof. Gerald Villar and Dean Danny Cabulay

Senior marketing students, Dianna Chebat and Michael Morro of the Far Eastern University Institute of Accounts Business and Finance, won two out of the seven prizes in the prestigious Battle of the Business Plans at the Spangler Auditorium of Harvard University on March 3, 2005. Their business proposal, BoardTech, won the "Most Likely to Have Global Impact Award," sponsored by Microsoft, and was tied with a US team for the "People's Choice Award," sponsored by Nokia Ventures.

The business plan proposes to manufacture an alternative construction panel board made from recycled scrap metals. It aims to provide cheap but durable construction materials to address the problems of mass housing in developing countries.

Other schools represented in the top ten of the Harvard tilt were teams from Harvard Business School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Yale University and Wharton.

The two seniors were also winners and finalists in previous national marketing competitions. They were coached by Prof. Danny Cabulay, Dean of the Institute of Accounts, and Prof. Gerald Villar, a marketing professor of the FEU. The victory of the BoardTech team is a victory not only of FEU and its alumni, but also of young Filipino entrepreneurs.

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Starting June of School Year 2005-2006, the International Academy of Management and Economics, the oldest and most prestigious international business school based in Makati will be offering local tuition to students enrolled under LSE External Study.

The classes to be offered at the Makati Campus of IAME would be in line with LSE's curriculum and prepare students to take their final exams from the University administered locally by the British Council.

Students enrolled in the undergraduate programs from finance and accounting to information systems and management; from economics to politics and international relations, would be able to take courses that follow the same prescribed syllabus that students enrolled with LSE External follow:

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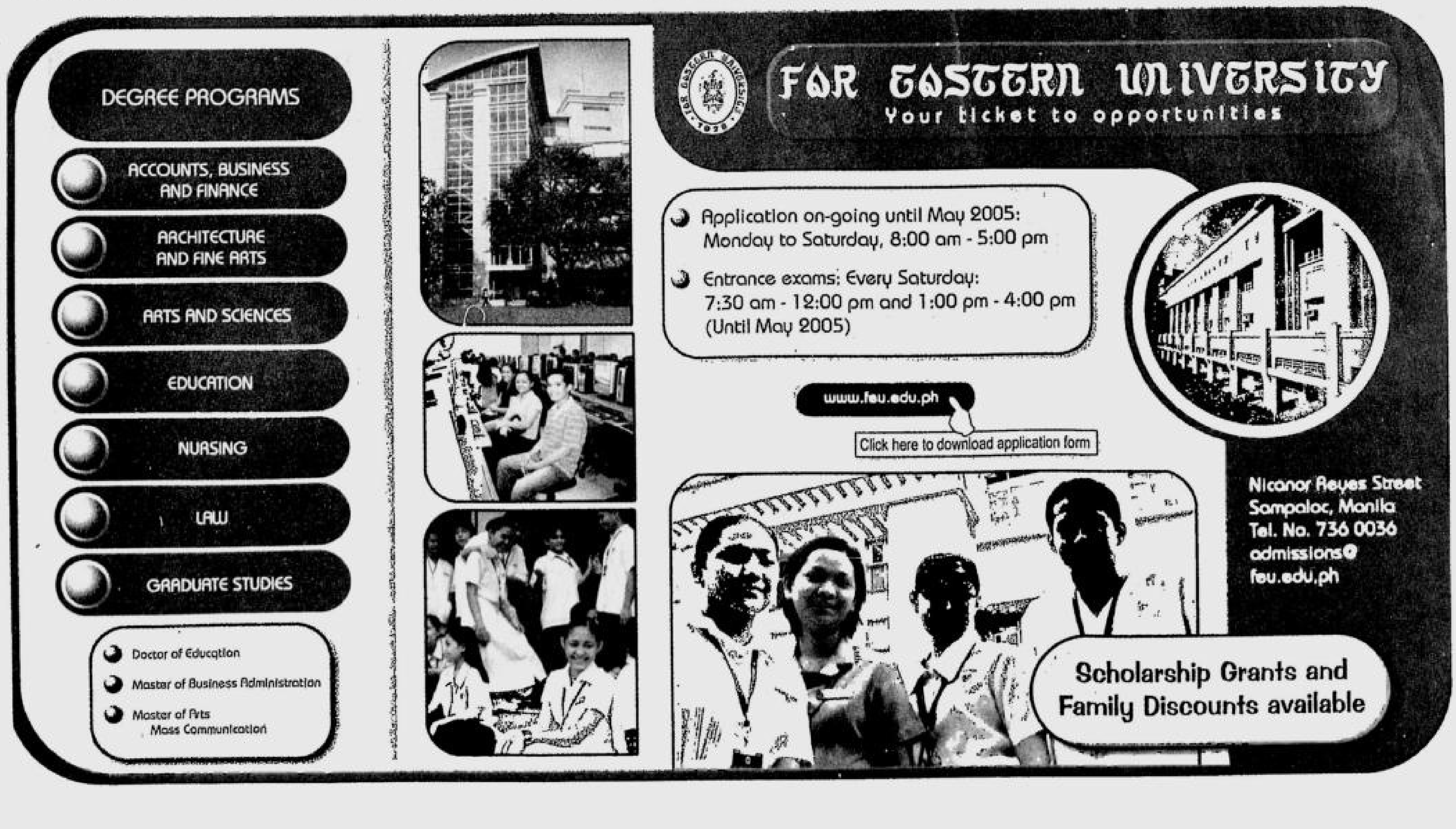
Those who finish the three-year programme with LSE External will receive a diploma from the University of London.

Through an access bridging programme that recently was opened by IAME to students with only 10 years of basic education, local Filipino high school graduates may now qualify for admission into higher education institutions of the British and other Commonwealth countries like Canada and Australia.

IAME is located at 1061 Metropolitan Avenue (Jupiter extension), San Antonio Village, Makati City. Its contact numbers are 7572608 and 09 local 22 (Sha) or 8962333 (Mel). Their website is www.iame.edu.ph and email address is at: programs@iame.edu.ph.



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- Good oral and written communication skills

GROUND OPERATIONS MANAGER
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- Good Leadership and Excellent Communication Skills;
- To be based in Cebu

CUSTOMER TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST
- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or any computer related course
- Exposure to any of the following industries distribution, third party logistics, warehouse management transportation.
- Competency in personal computer use, stand-alone or networked.
- In-depth knowledge of office automation software packages and computing technology.
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Willing to be based outside Metro Manila

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
- at least four (4) years of formal education at the University Level
- previous supervisory management experience in a service environment is strongly preferred.
- must have strong human relations and interpersonal (negotiation) skills.
- must be able to work well under pressure and adapt to changing conditions.
- ability to meet expected goals and strategies.
- Preferably Industrial Engineering or graduate of any engineering course.

FINANCE OFFICER
- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting
- must be knowledgeable in payroll processing
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- good in oral and written communication skills
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- must be a CPA holder
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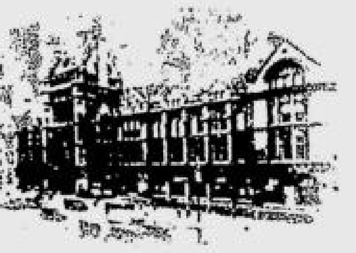

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BUSINESS ANALYST

Must be a college degree holder. Computer literate. Knowledgeable in SQL. At least 2 years experience in the review and design of systems and procedures. Good oral/written communication skills. At least 3 years experience in life insurance operation.

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Must be a college degree holder, preferably Major in Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematics or Statistics. Knowledgeable in COBOL programming, preferably in AS400 platform, SMART/400 and Life Asia application. Exposure to Systems Development Methodology, preferred. At least 6 months programming experience. Good oral/written communication skills.

AS/400 SYSTEMS OPERATOR

Must be a college degree holder, preferably a graduate of Computer Science. Computer literate. Good oral/written communication skills. At least 1 year relevant experience, preferably in Life Asia.

SYSTEMS ANALYST (PROJECT BASED)

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Foreign language level-English

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235 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
E-mail : info@unitedallworld.com
(We are not a recruitment agency)

Looking for a great opportunity? Think Winlink.

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- Male or female, 21-35 y.o., with first-rate people management skills
- Exceptional oral and written communications skills
- Well-versed in GDS systems and ticketing procedures; *must demonstrate Amadeus ticketing proficiency*
- Graduate of any 4-yr college course or 3 yrs related training or experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience

RESERVATIONS OFFICERS

- Male or female, 21-35 y.o., with first-rate people skills
- Exceptional oral and written communications skills
- At least 2 yrs experience with an IATA agency (preferred)
- Well-versed in GDS systems, Amadeus proficiency is an advantage
- Graduate of any 4-yr college course or 2 yrs related training or experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience

CREDIT AND COLLECTIONS OFFICERS

- Male or female, 21-35 y.o., with first-rate people skills
- Exceptional oral and written communications skills
- Diligent, responsible, with high degree of professional integrity
- Must be a graduate of BS Accountancy or equivalent course
- 2-3 yrs related training or experience in similar positions
- Knowledge of credit analysis, collection strategies, and credit investigation procedures is an advantage

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES (IN-HOUSE AND FIELD REPS)

- Male or female, 21-35 y.o., enjoys interacting with people
- Exceptional oral and written communications skills
- Creative, aggressive, and a hard worker and a smart seller.
- Graduate of any 4-yr. college course
- At least 1-2 yrs sales experience in the travel industry
- FIELD REP Must be diligent and works well with minimum supervision
- IN-HOUSE Must be organized, service-oriented and team-oriented

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**For Manila and Baguio assignment.*

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Male, 35 yrs old and below, college graduate of any course. W/ 3 years work experience in fine-dining restaurant/hotel.

Qualified applicants may send letter of application / comprehensive resume with ID photo & other credentials to: PO Box 200 c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, 5th floor Bldg B, SM Megamall, EDSA, Mandaluyong City

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Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism

The Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism is in need of a:

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

The successful applicant should hold at least a university degree from a reputable university and have professional experience in political or corporate communications. A background in human rights advocacy is an advantage.

The right candidate should have excellent written and oral language skills in English and Filipino, experience in designing modern communications tools and experience in graphic design and Web development.

Applicants should send a cover letter indicating earliest date of availability, résumé, and a recent 2x2 picture no later than 11 April 2006 to:

Room 101, APS Building, 20 Rockwell Drive, Rockwell Center,
Makati City, 1200.

Applicants over 30 years old need not apply.

A Caloocan-based Ad Agency
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IF YOU ARE...

A female • Graduate of Masscom, Advertising or Marketing • With good communication skills • Highly motivated and flexible • Has the ability to establish and maintain relationships with clients • Proficient in computer operations

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891 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City 1109

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- Must have finished a degree in BS/BA in Business, Marketing, Statistics, Economics, or related fields. MBA or equivalent MA strongly preferred.
- Must have at least 2-3 years supervisory experience with relational decision-support databases (preferably a data warehousing environment, along with demonstrative quantitative skills. Excellent knowledge with SAS.
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- Will be responsible for the preparation of the Bank's financial/internal/external regulatory reports or to handle Treasury/Trust Accounting transactions
- Graduate of BS Accountancy; preferably a Certified Public Accountant
- Proficient in MS Office Applications
- Experience in Banking will be an advantage

ACCOUNT ASSOCIATES (Kalookan & Makati)
- Will be responsible in assisting Account Officers in servicing of accounts and handling of the documentation of accounts
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Must possess good analytical skills; good communication skills; highly developed interpersonal skills and a high sense of responsibility

ACCOUNT OFFICER – Corporate Banking (Kalookan)
- Will be responsible in evaluating and recommending Credit facilities/loan proposals. Candidate will also market and manage borrowing clients' availments, collections and accommodations of credit facilities
- Minimum 3 years experience as Corporate Account Officer in any Commercial/Universal Bank

ACCOUNT OFFICER – Acquired Assets (Vismin)
- Will be responsible in the marketing and selling of all industrial and agricultural ROPOA assets
- Graduate of any 4 year business course, preferably Marketing
- Must have experience in conducting market/feasibility studies

MARKETING ASSOCIATES
- Will be responsible in carrying out marketing and selling activities of the ROPOA properties and documentation of sale of acquired assets
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Must know how to drive
- Work experience in a similar field will be an advantage

ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
- Will be responsible in translating system specifications into technical specifications & for writing program codes
- Graduate of BS Computer Science or any IT related course
- Banking experience will be an advantage

NETWORK ENGINEER
- Will be responsible for network administration, network optimization, planning, design, and evaluation. Will also handle the LAN/WAN administration, Internet/Intranet/remote access operations.
- Graduate of BS ECE or BS Computer Engineering
- At least three years experience in LAN/WAN internetworking/administration, network planning and performance management

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE
- Will be responsible for the administrative requirements of the unit
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Work experience in the same field will be an advantage

LAWYERS
- Will be responsible for the preparation and review of documents and/or contracts to be entered into by the Bank and to render legal opinions and assist in litigation work
- Member of the Philippine Bar in good standing
- Experience in litigation and documentation will be an advantage

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
- Will be responsible in gathering, processing and analyzing data from various research projects
- Graduate of BS Communication Research or any 4 year business or I. T. or Social Sciences related course
- Well-developed oral and written communication skills
- Experience in research and knowledge in Statistical Packages for Social Sciences will be an advantage

BRANCH CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE
- Will be responsible in client/account servicing in the branch
- Graduate of any 4 year business course

BRANCH SALES ASSOCIATE
- Will be responsible for handling and processing account opening, and other bank products
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 1 year bank experience in Branch Operations

BRANCH SALES OFFICER
- Will be responsible in account solicitation for the branch and assisting in the servicing and maintenance of existing account holders
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience in a Sales/Marketing function in a bank or any financial institution

BRANCH SALES SPECIALISTS
- This is an entry position eventually leading to Sales Officership. Qualified candidates will undergo classroom and on the job training involving field sales calls, sales planning, prospecting, appointment getting and presentation. Candidates are expected to attain targets for number of sales calls, accounts opened and volume of funds generated.
- Graduate of any 4 year course with strong inclination and high aptitude for sales

BRANCH SERVICE HEAD
- Will be responsible for the over-all Branch Operations
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience as Branch Operations Officer or have handled both Branch Cashier and Branch Accountant positions in any Commercial/Universal Bank

BRANCH RELATIONSHIP OFFICER
- Will be responsible in formulating plans and strategies to expand relationships within the bank's target market and for implementing of strategies for the branch target market in accordance with the Branch Sales Plan
- Minimum 2 years experience in a sales function gained from a bank or other financial institutions

Be a part of a company with Global Standards, currently being benchmarked in Service & Competence.

Interested parties are requested to send their comprehensive resumés to any of the addresses below with a 2x2 photo attached.

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Recruitment & Placement Sector
4/F iBank Exchange Building, 142 Amorsolo St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City

E-mail address: jobs@ibank.com.ph

Visit our website at *www.ibank.com.ph*

EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We are inviting experienced and qualified professionals to join our client with their global operations in the Process Control and Automation sector.

PROJECT/SITE MANAGER

You will play a key role in organizing and directing company's resources to efficiently and effectively manage process automation projects; ensuring that the project/site installation engineering and design are well executed, and projects are delivered according to agreed timelines; as well as understanding business contracts, budgets and desired quality whilst achieving high customer satisfaction. You will also work closely and negotiate with suppliers, sub-contractors as well as customers to optimize project costs and quality.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in managing instrumentation projects, and be familiar with requirements of major MNCs in the oil and gas industry. Those who are primarily involved in engineering and installation design, and on-site installation may be considered for the post of Site Manager. A good knowledge and/or hands-on experience in Distributed Control System (DCS), SCADA, sub-systems and field instrumentation are important.

PROJECT CONTROL MANAGER

You will be responsible for managing the department resources to support all projects on project control and administration. You are expected to set up systems and work procedures for project controls and administration including planning, costing, document control, reporting, close out, document trial, change management, materials management and invoicing, etc.

You are also expected to establish master project plan, project control procedures, cash and funds flow statement, manpower control and work breakdown structures; as well as set up appropriate weightages and basis for progress measurements.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in project administration in the oil and gas industry, as well as contracts review and interpretation.

SENIOR/SALES MANAGER (MAJOR PROJECTS)

You will work in an international team to source and secure major industrial automation projects for the organization. You will also interface with major international end-users and EPCs, while working in unison with worldwide affiliates.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with good understanding of international industrial automation market and related experience in selling industrial automation projects in a global environment. Experience in managing large-scale industrial automation projects will be an added advantage. You must have an extraordinary sales flair and excellent interpersonal skills.

SALES MANAGER

You will take sales leadership on major upstream oil and gas opportunities assigned. You are also expected to explore and develop new opportunities, achieve sales targets and provide support to regional offices.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with good understanding of the upstream oil and gas industry. Knowledge of application and process is important. To excel in this role, you must be aggressive and pro-active with a good working attitude.

SALES MANAGER/ENGINEER (POWER)

You will be responsible for development and management of customer relationships in the Asian region, specifically in the power and automation industry. This will involve presentations, meetings and team management for projects under your control. You may also be involved in proposal preparation.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in sales engineering of DCS for Power & Boiler Automation. Working experience in South East Asia and/or the Middle East will be an advantage. Candidates with more experience will be considered for a senior position.

SCADA PROJECT MANAGER/ENGINEER

You will be responsible for the supply of hardware, software, engineering and site commissioning from RTU, and telecommunication to host system located in central control room. You will also participate in the integration, loading, configuration and testing of SCADA, networking and communication hardware and software.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in project execution and management. You should be familiar with SCADA, network and telecommunication. Preference will be given to those with experience in oil and gas, pipeline or any other process control environments. This role commands an independent and self-motivated person, with strong project management and communication skills.

SYSTEM MARKETING MANAGER/ENGINEER

You will support the Marketing team in all marketing and promotion activities, both locally and regionally. Your responsibilities include conducting Distributed Control System (DCS) and Network Control System (NCS) demonstrations and presentations to both internal and external customers. You are expected to set up/update our demonstration system when there are new releases. Playing a regional role, you will also support the Sales & Marketing team in the region on all technical matters relating to Control Systems with conventional and Fieldbus technologies.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related hands-on experience in DCS system engineering. Working knowledge of chemical processes, PLC, various Fieldbus, OPC and industrial IT will be an added advantage. You must also have the aptitude for conducting system demonstrations/presentations and other marketing-related work.

MARKETING MANAGER/ENGINEER (R&D)

You will be responsible for representing our Manufacturing Execution System solutions for the process automation industry; working with customers to assess their needs and validate product specifications; developing strategic plans, performing gap and competitive analysis; as well as developing forecast revenue for industry solutions. You are expected to obtain a good understanding of industry requirements and trends; as well as make partnership, merger and acquisition recommendations. You will also represent our clients in industry events and professional societies; as well as co-ordinate with various departments for industry-related requirements to ensure clarity of requirements and prioritization of product features.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in a techno-economic or software environment in the process control industry. You should have an in-depth understanding of the process control industry and its technology development; as well as be able to advance a sales cycle with competence and promote business opportunities. To excel in this role, you should also have excellent business analysis skills for product strategy development and customer value proposition definition.

LEAD ENGINEER (ADVANCED PROCESS CONTROL APPLICATIONS)

You will be responsible for advanced process control application development, project development and implementation, and ongoing technical support. You are expected to identify opportunities where these applications will improve customers' process efficiency and operational consistency. You also need to assist in application validations in meeting all requirements and site commissioning; as well as achieve ultimate quality standard to meet all design review and internal audit requirements.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in advanced process control project execution. You must be competent in graphical operator interface software with thorough knowledge of networking advanced process control platforms. You should also be able to effectively interface with other engineering disciplines/organizations, plant operations and senior management level.

LEAD PROJECT ENGINEER

You will be responsible for the integration of both Distributed Control System (DCS) hardware and software engineering work, as well as with other sub-systems.

You will have the opportunity to interface actively with customers and EPC/end-users on all technical fronts. As the project leader, you will carry out proper planning and execution of integration/engineering works as well as technical quality checks throughout project execution. In addition, you will provide leadership to other Engineers and supervise them to execute various phases of project implementation from initial meeting to site commissioning.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in project/integration engineering work involving DCS, PLC and other sub-systems. Good working knowledge of hardware configuration of DCS; as well as the ability to read and understand P&ID and other related documents are important. Those with experience in Foundation Fieldbus engineering and Remote Instrument Building (RIB) will have an added advantage.

LEAD SYSTEM ENGINEER

You will be responsible for system (application software) engineering activities for the Distributed Control System. As the System leader, you will also be responsible for preparation of basic and detailed design specifications to provide value-added engineering solutions to meet EPC/end-users' expectations; including ensuring that software engineering (generation/debugging) activities meet internal audit requirements and managing system engineering schedule to meet the system delivery schedule.

You will interface actively with EPC/end-users on all technical fronts and lead other Engineers to execute various phases of project implementation from initial meeting to site commissioning; achieve ultimate quality standard to meet all design review and internal audit requirements; as well as manage project schedule to keep to the delivery schedule.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with hands-on DCS engineering working experience, including considerable experience in a lead role. Good working knowledge of computer networking and DCS application configuration, with the ability to read P&ID/EFD are a must.

PROPOSAL ENGINEER

You will be responsible for interpreting our specifications and preparing system proposals for the Distributed Control System; as well as discussing and presenting solutions, and performing product presentations to customers.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in design/detailed engineering of instrumentation system with DCS/PLC/Panels/SCADA and Fire & Gas system. You must be well-versed in PC packages, including AutoCAD; and able to work independently to study customers' specifications and propose suitable solutions. Experience in engineering and site installation will be an added advantage.

MODELLING ENGINEER (OPERATOR TRAINING SIMULATION APPLICATIONS)

You will provide a wide variety of interfaces to real-time databases and develop customized operator training simulation applications. You are also required to ensure project management/engineering standards are implemented at all times, timely shipment of projects and successful commissioning at customer sites. In addition, you are accountable for documentation; and providing technical support, maintenance and service.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related simulation experience; as well as a wide variety of modeling and actual plant experience in an industrial environment. You should be familiar with various modeling software, with hands-on exposure in control systems and solution packages.

This role commands a professional who is able to effectively interface with other engineering disciplines/organizations, plant operations and senior management level; as well as possesses strong analytical and communication skills.

APPLICATION SOFTWARE ENGINEER (PLANT INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM)

You will be required to understand our customers' business requirements and specifications to improve safety and productivity of plant operations. You will also provide consultation in the development of critical information systems by conducting feasibility studies and analysing customers' business needs. In addition, you will handle project implementation in delivering the best solution to meet service quality standard and customer satisfaction.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with related experience in software design and application development. You must be strong in software programming; as well as possess technical competence in using .Nets and ASP linked with relational databases such as Oracle and SQL server.

SENIOR/SOFTWARE R&D ENGINEER

You will be responsible for implementing various software products and developing software applications on Windows. You will also run software unit tests and ensure software documentation for all projects.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with proficiency/training in software and related experience in a software development environment using object-oriented methodology. Knowledge of the full implementation cycle of application software programming using VB, Visual C/C++, Power Builder, VB.net, C#.net, etc. is important; whilst Visual C/C++ experience is a must. You should also possess an in-depth knowledge of relational databases such as Oracle and SQL server. Fresh graduates with good C++ knowledge are welcome to apply.

SOFTWARE QA ENGINEER

You will be responsible for software quality to analyze and improve the software development process for various software products developed on the Windows platform.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with proficiency/training in software, and related experience in a software development or software quality assurance environment. Knowledge of software process engineering based on the methodologies such as RUP or CMM/CMMI is a must. In addition, you should possess skills in estimating and improving the software development process. Skills of estimation and analysis on an actual software development project according to the metrics definition are also required. Knowledge of software development based on the UML is important; whilst knowledge of relational databases such as Oracle or SQL server is desirable.

SOFTWARE APPLICATION ENGINEER

You will design, develop and maintain software applications for solutions used in the process industries.

You should possess a relevant tertiary qualification with proficiency/training in software, and related IT experience in developing GUI and RDBMS applications. You must be competent in Visual Basic and/or C++, object-oriented design/programming and database design. Knowledge of COM/DCOM and .NET Framework will be an added advantage.

** **For all positions, overseas travelling is required and fluency in English is a must.***

Please send your detailed resume, including current and expected salaries as well as contact telephone number and a recent photograph to:

**MK 152
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
GF, Atrium Building
Makati Avenue
Makati City
E-mail: 152@saatchi.com.sg**

(Please indicate position applied for on the top left-hand corner of envelope.)

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Medical Writers

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Advertising Sales Managers

•25-35 years old • Graduate of the Sciences or Marketing • At least 2 years of successful selling experience • Pleasant personality • Pharmaceutical sales experience is a plus •

Customer Service Representative

•23-28 years old • Preferable male with experience in pharmaceutical promotions • Graduate of marketing, mass com or related field of study • Pleasant personality; proactive, aggressive and hardworking • Good communication and interpersonal skills • At least one year sales experience •

Advertising Agency Account Executive

•24-30 years old • Female • Pleasant personality • College graduate • A+ attitude • Fluent in oral and written English • Associate Product Manager or Ad Agency experience in Pharmaceutical/Healthcare industry, an advantage, but not required.•

If you think you are the right person, send or bring your resume and I.D. Picture to: **Medicomm Pacific, Inc., 2/F, Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Business center, Pasig City or e-mail to info@e-medicomm.com.**

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COUNTRY MANAGER

Successful candidates will play a pivotal role in supporting the company's operations abroad. He/she will coordinate all IT operation, Admin. Finance and Accounting, Purchasing, Sales and Marketing, and Business Development.

To qualify, candidate must possess:

- Recognized university degree from a reputable school;
- Fluency in speaking Mandarin;
- Previous experience in the retail industry;
- At least 5 years progressive experience in management;
- Excellent leadership and people management skills.

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resume with 2x2 photo and Transcript of Records to:

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**Send resumé with credentials or fax/e-mail to:
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. (HRD)
996 Pablo Ocampo Sr. St.(Vito Cruz) Malate, Manila
Tels. #525-3593/523-0957 Fax # 521-36-71
E-mail: maye@elitegarments.com**

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MSH LEAD

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

The Local Enhancement and Development (LEAD) for Health Project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Management Sciences for Health (MSH), aims to strengthen local government provision and management of family planning (FP) and selected health services (Vitamin A/MCH, TB, and HIV/AIDS), and to improve the policies and financing for these services. The Project will seek to improve the capacity of local government units (LGUs), particularly in cities and municipalities, to meet the needs of their constituents, especially the poor, for FP, TB, MCH, and HIV/AIDS..

The LEAD for Health Project is a three-year contract between USAID and MSH that ends on September 30, 2006. There are two 2-year optional extension periods.

MSH is currently seeking qualified candidates to fill in the position of:

DIRECTOR OF THE FAMILY PLANNING AND HEALTH SYSTEMS UNIT

Duty Station is Manila, Philippines.

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES: The Director will provide primary support to the functions of the Chief of Party (COP) in supervising all the activities and services of the Family Planning and Health Systems Unit provided through this contract. Through the COP, the Director will receive technical guidance from the USAID Cognizant Technical Officer and to some extent from the Department of Health (DOH) Project Manager for the project. The Director will provide leadership in all the health and family planning technical areas of the project. S/He will supervise the staff in these areas, as well as subcontractors working in this area. S/He will work closely with the Local Government Director to assure that effective technical assistance is organized and delivered with support from the field operations unit.

As Unit Director, responsibilities may include:

1. Supervise the work planning, strategy development, and implementation of all family planning and health technical assistance to local government units (LGUs) provided through the LEAD Project.
2. In coordination with the COP, other Unit Directors, and designated team members, provide principal technical oversight for all family planning and health services policy studies, diagnostic and/or operations research studies, demonstration projects, training and technical assistance needed to formulate recommendations for policy reform measures covered under the contract.
3. With the COP, provide technical supervision and assign technical responsibilities as may be necessary to all long-term and short-term consultants working under the Family Planning and Health Systems area of contract.
4. Organize and coordinate all technical assistance to partner LGUs for family planning and health services specified in the LEAD contract, in response to MOAs with LGUs, performance contracts, and other LGU agreements.
5. Supervise and support the activities of the Family Planning Advisor in the provision of technical assistance, organizing activities and training in family planning, and identifying and documenting key policy issues in family planning to be addresses by the project. Maintain close working linkages with JHPIEGO in carrying out this work. Focus particular attention on ways to make a broader range of contraceptive methods available, to provide innovative leadership to follow through initiatives such as non-scalpel vasectomy, and strategies to assist family planning clients to shift to more permanent models methods.
6. Supervise and support the activities of the HIV/AIDS specialist, with particular attention to the AIDS Surveillance and Education Project to assure that its activities are rapidly and effectively integrated into the LEAD Project.
7. Supervise and support the activities of the Behavior Change Communications/Nutrition Specialist in the areas of changing provider behavior, and in promotion of Vitamin A use to meet project targets. Maintain close working links with The Manoff Group in this work.
8. Supervise and support the activities of the TB-DOTS Specialist, particularly in strengthening public sector initiatives at the LGU level, working closely with the TB-Private Sector Project, and also with the national TB program as well as strategies to assure an adequate and timely supply of TB drugs.
9. Supervise and support the activities of the Community Health Services Specialist in carrying out targeted activities in two areas of Muslim Mindanao, and in one large urban slum, by adapting techniques of community health workers, ELCO mapping, and other approaches developed in Bangladesh and India.
10. Supervise and support the activities of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Specialist.
11. Supervise and support the activities of the MIS Specialist to revise the CBMIS, facilitate client and service data and summarize it with the most cost-effective methods, and implement the varied agency of the LEAD Project in the MIS area.
12. Support advocacy and behavior change strategies to improve family planning and health services at the LGU level.
13. Conduct monitoring of all health technical activities to ensure that performance schedules are observed and outputs are completed and delivered according to schedule.

Desired Qualifications:

1. At least master's level education/training or its equivalent in health services, particularly family planning, demography, public health, health administration, or a related field.
2. At least seven years successful previous experience working with national and local governments on the development and/or implementation of health programs both at the national and local levels in the developing world.
3. Demonstrated understanding, thorough knowledge of and familiarity with health systems, health financing, and health program policy issues confronting the Philippines.
4. Familiar with principal individuals within the DOH, other government agencies, private/business sector, and the community at large who are responsible for health policy.
5. Familiarity with USAID administrative procedures.
6. Experience in managing large scale service programs at the LGU level.
7. Familiar with working with non-government organizations in the delivery of health services.
8. Prior experience in health policy work in the Philippines.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their application letter, with a comprehensive resumé showing details of their work experience, academic background, and references not later than April 15, 2005 through any of the following:

Mail: Suite 1101 Ma. Natividad Building
470 T. M. Kalaw Avenue corner Cortada Street
Ermita, Manila

Fax: (632) 521-0950

WE ARE A GROWING FOOD COMPANY IN NEED OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR THE FF POSITIONS:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HR ASSISTANT
SALES AUDIT SUPERVISOR
SECRETARY ENCODERS
STORE SUPERVISORS
CASHIERS

Female, college graduate
Professional, efficient and hardworking
Willing to work long and flexible hours

Compensation package would be commensurate to the work performance

EXPERIENCE IN YOUR FIELD IS AN ADVANTAGE

Please apply in person at 158 P. Sevilla St., between 6th & 7th Ave., Grace Park, Caloocan City. BRING RESUMÉ w/ 2X2 colored photo.

A Food Ingredient Company needs

1 - FOOD TECHNOLOGIST
1 - R&D CHEMIST

Qualifications:

- Female - 21-26 years old

FOOD TECHNOLOGIST:

- B.S. Food Technology graduate

R&D CHEMIST:

- B.S. Chemistry graduate

Preferably one or two years working experience in Food Institution or Food Manufacturing.

Send to: P.O. Box 19399, SAN JUAN
CENTRAL POST OFFICE,
SAN JUAN, MM, 1500

- Comprehensive resumé
- Records of grades
- 2x2 or 1½ x 1½ ID picture

GREAT JOB OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW GRADUATES

Marketing Assistant

Full time job position for Marketing Assistant for a company in the Real Estate Industry.

REQUIREMENTS:

- College Graduate from a reputable University – Business or Marketing related course
- Good communications and presentation skills
- Demonstrates creativity to formulate and execute marketing campaign and promotions
- Computer literate / knowledgeable in MS Word, Excel & Powerpoint

Interested applicants may submit bio-data at Unit 2305-A West Tower, Phil. Stock Exchange Center, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Call 635-5375 to 77 or 673-0234 to 36 for details.

WEB DEVELOPER

E-COMMERCE, FLUENT IN ASP/SQL. KNOWS WEB/GRAPHIC DESIGN, NEWLY GRADS ARE WELCOME. MARIKINA/CAINTA/ANTIPOLO/PASIG/QC AREA. BRING SAMPLE WEB. (0920)5000097 OR 6827168 - NORMAN

Immediate Hiring

SALES CLERK

Female, single; 18-25 years old
College level with pleasing personality

Apply in person between 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at:

#21 Gilmore Avenue, New Manila, Q.C.
(near St. Paul College QC) • Tel. No. 722-7063

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Customer Service Representatives
Technical Support Representatives
Team Leaders
Accounting Assistant
Senior Line Manager
Foreign Language Specialist
(Spanish, French, Italian, German, Portuguese)

FOR BAGUIO:
Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Representatives
Site Support Supervisor
Company Nurse

Bring your resume with
° 2x2 picture
° SSS & TIN nos.

PASIG: Mon to Fri [9am-3pm] April 11 - 15 22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

BAGUIO: Mon to Fri (9am-5pm) April 11 - 15 Baguio Economic Zone, Loakan Rd., Baguio City

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Our client, **SAUDI AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CO. LTD.** (Accre# 10006679) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia needs the following:

ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL WORKERS (SKILLED WORKERS)

Requirements:

- MUST be between 25 and 35 years old
- With at least 3-4 years experience in the pasteurization area of milk processing plant
- Must be electrical or mechanical engineering graduates
- Must have good knowledge of pasteurization process and related equipment maintenance

Benefits:

- Tax-free salary ranging from US$400 to 700
- Free airfare, Ready-visa
- No placement fee
- Housing & transportation provided

MECHANICAL-ENGINEER/TECHNICIAN & ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN

Requirements:

- MUST be between 27 and 35 years old
- With minimum 5 years experience, preferably in a manufacturing plant
- MUST hold Bachelors degree in Mechanical and/or Electrical Engineering, with valid PRC license.

Benefits:

- Tax-free salary ranging from US$800 to 1,000
- Free airfare, Ready-visa
- No placement fee
- Housing & transportation provided

Job Description for: MECHANICAL-ENGINEER/TECHNICIAN

1. Develops and tests machinery and equipment, applying knowledge of mechanical engineering technology, under direction of engineering and scientific staff.
2. Reviews project instructions and blueprints to ascertain test specifications, procedures, objectives, test equipment, nature of technical problem, and possible solutions, such as part redesign, substitution of material or parts, or rearrangement of parts or subassemblies.
3. Drafts detail drawing or sketch for drafting room completion or to request parts fabrication by machine, sheet metal or wood shops.
4. Devises, fabricates, and assembles new or modified mechanical components or assemblies for products, such as industrial equipment and machinery, power equipment, servo systems, machine tools, and measuring instruments.
5. Sets up and conducts tests of complete units and components under operational conditions to investigate design proposals for improving equipment performance or other factors, or to obtain data for development, standardization, and quality control.
6. Analyzes indicated and calculated test results in relation to design or rated specifications and test objectives, and modifies or adjusts equipment to meet specifications.
7. Records test procedures and results, numerical and graphical data, and recommendations for changes in product or test method.

Job Description for: ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN

1. Applies electrical theory and related knowledge to test and modify developmental or operational electrical machinery and electrical control equipment and circuitry in industrial or commercial plants and laboratories:
2. Assembles and tests experimental motor-control devices, switch panels, transformers, generator windings, solenoids, and other electrical equipment and components according to engineering data and knowledge of electrical principles. Modifies electrical prototypes to correct functional deviations under direction of ELECTRICAL ENGINEER (profess. & kin.).
3. Diagnoses cause of electrical or mechanical malfunction or failure of operational equipment and performs preventative and corrective maintenance.
4. Develops wiring diagrams, layout drawings, and engineering specifications for system or equipment modifications or expansion, and directs personnel performing routine installation and maintenance duties.
5. Plans, directs, and records periodic electrical testing, and recommends or initiates modification or replacement of equipment which fails to meet acceptable operating standards.

If interested, please report to ADD International Services Inc. and look for Anne. **Bring detailed resume, 2x2 picture with white background, certificate of employment, diploma, and transcript of records, valid PRC license/board rating/board certificate, NBI clearance, and passport copy. Walk-in applicants will be prioritized.** Deadline of submission of applications is on **April 11, 2005.**

4/F Pilar Building, 148 Amorsolo St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No. 813-3000 loc. 424
Fax. No. 817-6773, email rbulosan@add.com.ph

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GLOBALSTRIDE is a premier outsourced customer service solutions provider. We provide the best in class CRM solutions to global companies at a lower cost through our offshore customer contact centers. Through a series of operational and technology partnerships with leading companies worldwide, GLOBALSTRIDE is uniquely positioned to handle customer service needs for a full range of contact channels, technologies, and languages.

CUSTOMER CARE SPECIALISTS for Outbound Sales Programs

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree holders of any course with excellent interpersonal and communication skills particularly using American grammar, diction, intonation, inflection, intonation and articulation
- Previous experience in customer relation, management, sales or marketing is an advantage
- Strong sales background calling for American, Australian and/or British accounts is an advantage
- Candidates are expected to have bubbly personality to be able to establish good conversation and rapport with customers
- Must be assertive, high spirited and persevering
- Fresh graduates with above average communication skills and passion for sales are welcome to apply

CUSTOMER CARE SPECIALISTS for Financial Consulting Program

Job Requirements:

- College graduates with disciplines related to Finance/Economics/Business or any equivalent gains an advantage
- Relevant inbound customer service experience is a plus
- With substantial sales experience preferably in insurance/pre-need/credit cards and other related fields
- Candidates with relevant work experience in the banking and financial sectors are also welcome
- Above average written and oral communication skills
- Candidates are expected to have developed analytical and probing skills and established judgment abilities

QA MANAGER

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in holder preferably in Industrial or Management Engineering or any Operations related discipline
- At least 5 years experience in Quality Assurance or running a Quality Management program
- Significant work-related experience in a call center or highly customer service oriented company gains definite advantage
- Candidates are expected to have keen eye for detail, developed analytical and good decision-making skills and above average communication skills

PAYROLL ASSISTANT

Job Requirements:

- Must be an Accounting graduate preferably with at least 1-2 years payroll experience
- Candidates with BIR and PEZA compliance and other regulatory requirements experience gains an advantage
- Candidates are expected to be self-starters, motivated and sharp
- Fresh graduates with good academic standing and passionate about work are encouraged to apply

SYSTEMS DEVELOPERS

Job Requirements:

- Graduates of BS Computer Science and other IT-related courses
- Candidates must have hands-on experience in any of the following languages: VB, ASP, VB.net, ASP.net and MS SQL
- Preferably with at least 1 year work experience in related field
- Fresh graduates with strong working knowledge in the above languages are welcome to apply

Please visit us at:

29th Floor IBM Plaza Building, Eastwood City, Cyberpark Libis, Quezon City.
You can also call or email us at jobs@globalstride.com or visit our website at www.globalstride.com Telephone No. 911-8866 / Fax. 911-8854

Are you looking for a dream job?

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My Trabaho Match provides a link between jobseekers and employers to facilitate employment of applicants qualified for vacant positions. All resumes sent to **My Trabaho** at designated drop off points, mail or e-mail will be encoded in a database. Job seekers can also encode their resumes themselves into the database. The database will be made available to as many employers as possible to speed up the employment process.

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- ☑ **Filipino citizen**
- ☑ **High school graduate**
- ☑ **Physically and mentally fit**
- ☑ **No police or criminal record**

Mechanics:

1. Send through postal mail or submit personally your bio-data and one 2 X 2 photo to any of STI schoolnationwide, Philippine Daily Inquirer branches in Metro Manila, or DZRH, MBC Bldg., Star City, Pasay City, Metro Manila. Or e-mail my_trabaho@yahoo.com. Or encode your resume at www.mytrabaho.com.
2. Should your qualifications match those being looked for by employers, the employer/s will contact you directly.
3. The organizers of this program do not guarantee any job or employment. It will only provide this service to increase the jobseeker's chances in getting a job.

Submit your resume online at www.mytrabaho.com

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HIMEX Corporation, the leader in providing state-of-the-art HITACHI Medical equipment- MRI, CT-Scan, Ultrasound and X-ray Systems- is in urgent need of top-caliber and highly-skilled professionals:

SERVICE ENGINEERS (2)

- Electronics & Communications Engineer (ECE)
- At least two (2) years work experience as Service Engineer for medical equipment.
- Has the ability to perform technical service, maintenance, installation, trouble-shooting of medical equipment
- With extensive working knowledge of electronic components.

APPLICATION SPECIALIST (Ultrasound Products)

- Degree in Radiological Technology or other related medical courses.
- At least 2 years work experience with background in medical equipment
- Has the ability to supervise and perform Product Demonstration.
- Has the ability to conduct training for Clinical Application Procedures.

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR/ANALYST

- Degree in Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- At least three (3) years work experience in maintaining network and system software/hardware.
- Has extensive working knowledge in network configuration, computer technology, trouble-shooting and database management.

SALES MANAGER

- Degree in Marketing Management or any business-related course
- Experience in dealing with hospitals and medical practitioners an advantage
- Knowledge in bank financing requirements
- Capable of handling second hand medical equipment

Please hand-carry your resume,
starting April 4 until April 11, 2005 / 8am - 5pm:

HIMEX CORP.
HIGH INTEGRATED MEDICAL ENGINEERING EXPONENT

Unit 606 Prestige Tower, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Complex
Tel: 637-1669 / 633-4875
Visit our website: www.ehimex.com

HANDS ON MANILA
FOUNDATION, INC.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Resource Mobilization Manager of Hands On Manila will manage the resource generation activities as designed and planned by the Board's Fundraising Committee. Supervised by the Executive Director, he/she will be responsible for the implementation of fundraising and other related activities including, but not limited to the following:

Corporate Fundraising

Prepare and present corporate fundraising presentations
Coordinate projects with corporations
Liaise with and maintain corporate relationships
Develop corporate volunteer programs
Assist in marketing holiday corporate gifts

Institutional Fundraising

Develop and prepare grant proposals
Identify and explore available grants from funding institutions
Conceptualize and organize fundraising events
Assist in the design, production and sales of HOM merchandise for fundraising

Qualifications:

1. Preferably with a BS degree in Marketing or Business Administration
2. Familiarity with developmental work
3. Experience in writing, preferably in preparing grant proposals
4. Must possess communication and presentation skills
5. Organizational skills necessary to address the corporate partners' requirements
6. Team worker
7. Flexible

Applicants must submit an application letter addressed to the Executive Director with a 2x2 photo and comprehensive resume on or before April 15, 2005. You may send applications via email to handsonmla@edsamail.com.ph, fax 843-7044 or send to Unit 10 Lower Penthouse Medical Plaza Building, Amorsolo corner Dela Rosa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City.

WANTED
OPERATION MANAGER

- Mechanical Engineer at least 40 yrs. old
- With experience in design, construction, and operation of aggregates crushing plants
- Experienced in maintenance and operation of heavy equipments/pile driving equipments
- Has pile driving experience onshore and offshore

Send resume to:

Kanlaon Aggregates and Asphalt
Annapolis Wilshire Plaza Unit 1610
#11 Annapolis St. Greenhills, San Juan

A Pharmaceutical Mfg. Co. needs

2 PHARMACISTS

- Pharmacy graduate
- female, to work as QC analyst or R&D

IND'L/MECH. ENGR.

- Indl./Mech. Engineering graduate
- to work in Pharma. Machines

Mail or e-mail biodata to:
Philmed Laboratories, Inc.
Ladislao Diwa St., Marikina Heights,
Marikina City 1810 or email info@philmed com

MERCHANDISER

w/ 3-5 yrs experience in softlines merchandising in a trading ofc; 25-35 yrs. old; with good understanding of production flow; specs measurement; time & action calendar, etc.; good communication skills; computer literate: word, excel, emails...

Send complete resumé w/ 1x1 photo thru email: bethscale@yahoo.com or mail at 1283 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave. cor. Tomas Morato, Q.C. or fax at 7212591.

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DESIGNER. BUILDER. DEVELOPER • #214 MALINAO ST
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One of the leaders in Realty & Construction Industry is in need of the following personnel:

❖ CIVIL ENGR. (Site)

- BSCE w/ at least 3 yrs. experience in Construction, preferably exposed in housing projects.
- Willing to be assigned in Site.
- Can work under pressure.

❖ PURCHASER

- Bachelor's degree w/ at least 5 years experience in Construction preferably housing projects.
- With Engineering background.

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214 Malinao St., Brgy. Highway Hills Mandaluyong City
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Experienced Ticketing Supervisor

- Knowledgeable in All Ticketing
- Proficient with Abacus or Amadeus

Executive Secretary to Gen. Manager

- Computer literate with USA Visa is an advantage

Call Ms. Minda @ 536-1993 • 536-3048

★2005 JOB EXPANSION★

88 GRADUATES, Licensed or Non-licensed

Male/Female, Single/Married, College graduate of any course.
Apply in person with resumé & any original credentials.
Hiring will be on Monday to Saturday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, April 11-16, 2005

APPLY AT:
TPG 107 4th Flr., Exchange Corner Bldg.
V.A. Rufino St. (formerly Herrera St.) corner Esteban St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City
(Back of Rufino Plaza, in front of Tuscan Bldg.;
top of Security Bank
"First Come First Serve Basis"
Clip this ad to your resumé

JOB OPENINGS

The company that powers the No. 1 Prepaid Internet Card known as ISPx Bonanza is in need of the following positions as part of its expansion ...

MARKETING MANAGER

- Male/Female, 35 years old and below
- Must have at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Marketing Management or related course. Master's Degree in Business will be a plus factor.
- Aggressive, personable, highly articulate, analytical, results- oriented individual, and with excellent communication & interpersonal skills
- At least 5 year(s) of experience in the related field; preferably from consumer goods, advertising, telecommunication, or IT industry.
- Required skill(s): Market Planning, Events & Promo Management, and Public Relations.
- Demonstrated leadership skills, having gained respect in all levels of an organization.
- Computer literate, and must be willing to travel

SALES MANAGER

- Male/Female, 35 yrs. old and below
- Must have at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Business/Administration/Management, Marketing, or equivalent
- With 5 years managerial experience in the field of sales, preferably from consumer goods, advertising, telecommunication, or IT industry.
- Can develop strategies, forecasting and planning sales activities to support attainment of targets
- Must have strong leadership skills who can supervise, motivate, and coordinate an effective and dynamic sales force
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills, computer literate, pro-active, results-driven, and willing to travel
- Must have handled field sales force

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Female, single, preferably 28 years old and below
- Graduate of any 4-year Business course preferably major in Marketing, Management, Computer Science
- Must be proficient in computer and internet applications
- Must possess excellent command in oral and written communication
- Must be pro-active, assertive, systematic and well-organized

WEB DEVELOPER

- M/F; preferably 28 years old and below
- Must be adept with PHP, mySQL/mySQL optimization, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Flash, JavaScript, CSS and with an experience in configuring web servers with IIS and/or Apache is a plus
- Should possess the following qualities i.e., excellent communication skills, well-organized, detail-oriented, positive and enthusiastic, punctual, good interpersonal relationship, willing to learn new skills
- Somebody who could maintain and develop internal and external web pages, property and secondary databases, and can assist in marketing graphics

SALES EXECUTIVES

- M/F; preferably 25 years old and below
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Fluent in both English and Filipino
- Should be enthusiastic, self-driven, independent, and can relate well with people of all levels
- Willing to do field work

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TOTAL INTERNET SOLUTIONS

Interested applicants may apply personally at TRI-ISYS INTERNET Head Office, 4/F AIC Center, Escolta St. cor. Nueva St., Binondo, Manila from Mondays thru Fridays, 9-11 am; or you may e-mail your application to career@tri-isys.com .

www.tri-isys.com

Do you want to be identified with a large and well-respected conglomerate?
Do you want to be a part of a team of young & aggressive professionals in charting the direction of a stable and fast-growing Bank?
If you answer in the affirmative, read on.

RobinsonsBank
A Savings Bank

*A member of the highly diversified conglomerate, JG Summit Holdings Corporation., **Robinsons Bank** is in urgent need of young professionals to fit the following key positions:*

Marketing Officer Asset & Liabilities

(For Metro Manila, Cebu-Mandaue & Osmeña, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro, San Fernando, Baguio & Naga)

- Between 25 - 35 years old
- Graduate of any Business related course
- With strong marketing background preferably in Banking or related fields
- Familiar with solicitation of deposit and auto loan accounts

Risk Officer

- Graduate of Math, Statistics or Actuarial Science
- A graduate degree/units in MS Finance will be a great advantage (but not required)
- Students of MS Finance with above undergrad courses are encouraged to apply
- Highly creative, analytical, energetic, can easily relate with people (not just with math equations)
- Rank will be commensurate w/ experience /education level
- Between 20-35 years old

Trust Head

- With comprehensive experience in all backroom Trust Operations
- Has extensive knowledge of all regulatory issues pertaining to trust
- Highly creative, energetic, able to assist the Trust/Marketing Head in product development
- Completed the Trust Institute of the Phils. training program on Trust Operations and Investment Management
- Rank will be commensurate w/ experience

Account Officer

(For Commercial/Consumer Lending)

- Between 25 – 35 years old
- Graduate of any Business related course
- With at least 2 yrs. experience as Account Officer for Commercial and Consumer Loans

Customer Relations Specialist

(For Metro Manila & Cebu)

- Between 20 – 25 years old
- Graduate of any Business related course
- Experience in tellering, new accounts and branch marketing is an advantage
- Willing to accept a fixed-term employment

CSA (Teller/New Accounts)

(For Metro Manila & Provincial)

- Between 20 – 25 years old
- Graduate of any Business related course
- Experience in tellering and new accounts an advantage

I.T. Auditor

- Between 22 - 30 years old
- Graduate of Accounting; CPA
- With at least 1year experience in systems audit gained from an Audit Firm or Banks
- Must be highly analytical

Security & Admin. Officer

- Between 30-40 years old
- Will be responsible for establishing and administering procedures in maintaining the overall security of the bank.
- With at least 2years experience in security and admin. functions gained from a bank or financial institution

I.T. Head

- Between 30-40 years old
- With adequate experience in Banking Systems: CIF, GL, Deposit, Remittance, Loans, Treasury/Trust, Cards
- Technical skill experience: AS400, Windows NT, Windows 98/2000/ME/XP, Office98/2000/ME/XP, SQL Server/MS Access, RPG/Visual Basic, CISCO Router/Extreme Switches/Firewall
- With adequate management skills.

Systems Operation Section Head

- Graduate of Computer Science or any related science courses
- Has a strong background in MIS and IT operation gained from Banks
- With in-depth knowledge on project management, SDLC & RCS methodologies
- Familiar with BSP Compliances & Financial Regulations
- 3-5 years experience in a Supervisory position or equivalent in an IT environment of Banks

CI / Appraiser

- Between 25 - 30 years old
- Preferably a licensed Civil Engineer
- With at least 1year experience in gathering and evaluating pertinent information and preparation of appraisal reports.
- Willing to do field works

Applicants for the above positions must be:

- *Flexible*
- *Computer literate*
- *With good oral & written comm. skills*
- *With pleasing personality*

Interested applicants may submit their Letter of Application, Resume, & Transcript of Records to:

ROBINSONS SAVINGS BANK - HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT GROUP
Units 101 & 201 Continental Court Condominium,
47 Annapolis Street, Greenhills,San Juan
Fax no. (632) 7212336 • Email: recruitment@robinsonsbank.com.ph
Only qualified applicants shall be notified.

A JG Summit Company

ARE YOU DRIVEN?

Volvo is looking for individuals who are driven and equipped to join our team.

GENERAL ACCOUNTANT / ACCOUNTING STAFF

- College graduate of BS Accountancy or BS Commerce major in Accounting
- At least 2 years work experience in the same field
- Proficient in MS Word & MS Excel

PROSPECTING AGENTS

- At least college graduate
- Fluent in English
- Good communication skills
- Willing to be assigned on field work
- Aggressive, young and determined steward
- Computer Literate

CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER

- College graduate
- Fluent in English
- Good communication skills
- Willing to be assigned on field work
- Aggressive, young and determined steward
- Computer Literate
- At least 1 year work experience in the same field

Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resumes & 2x2 photo before April 8, 2005 to:
Email: rsv@volvophils.com
Address: Volvo Makati, 2272 Chino Roces Ave.
Extension, Makati City.

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for life

Applicants are encouraged to apply personally on Tuesdays and Thursdays only.

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A company unparalleled in delivering **Quality**, **Value**, and **Service** to its valued customers.

Invites you to join and be a part of our expansion program for the year 2005. We are looking for empowered individuals who can fill in our current openings.

Store Management Candidates

- College graduate
- Interested in store operations
- Willing to undergo intensive training in Store Operations
- At least 1 year supervisory experience
- With excellent communication and leadership skills
- Assertive and flexible
- Computer literate

Applicants are requested to apply personally at:

RMSI

RUSTAN MARKETING SPECIALISTS, INC.
4/F Urban Bldg., 405 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave.
Makati City

FILSTAR DISTRIBUTORS CORPORATION Hallmark BIC Writing Instruments

Build your career with us!

PRODUCT SUPERVISOR

Male - Female, not more than 35 years old, College graduate of any Marketing-related courses, with at least 3 years experience in branding & product management. Well-versed & knowledgeable in computer application (Microsoft, Linux & or Word processing component). Ability to analyze sales figures, give recommendations to new product offerings, inventory management& forecasting sales target is an advantage. Excellent communication & written skills in the English language.

JUNIOR PRODUCT PLANNER

Male - Female, 22-25 years old, Mass Communication, Marketing, Advertising graduate or other related courses. Creative, proficient in oral and written English, computer literate, with knowledge in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION ASSISTANT

Female, 22-25 years old, AB English, Mass Communication, Journalism, Advertising graduate or any related courses. Creative & proficient in oral and written English, willing to go on fieldwork for public relations activities.

ARTIST

Male - Female, 22-25 years old, Interior Design, Architecture and Fine Arts Graduate with 1-2 years experience, with knowledge in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Autocad, Machintosh based flatform.

Please submit resume with ID picture and transcript of records to:
Filstar Distributors Corp. 2/F Reliance Center Bldg., #99 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Ugong, Pasig City 1604
Tel. nos.:(632) 671-0555 look for Ms. Ime or Lilybeth of HRD or e-mail to: iptagudar@filstar.com.ph
Applications received on or before April 8, 2005 will be given priority.

NONPAREIL INTERNATIONAL
FREIGHT & CARGO SERVICES, INC.

urgently needs the following:

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Male/Female, not over 30 years old
- Marketing Graduate or any related courses
- With experience in both air/sea freight cargo
- Computer literate and with good oral and written communication skills

PURCHASING OFFICER

- Male, not over 35 years old
- College Graduate
- With related knowledge of the job especially in International Harvester / Japan trailer parts
- Articulate
- Can drive car and motorcycle

Applicants may send their comprehensive resume with recent 2x2 photo and contact numbers to:

ADMIN/HRD DEPARTMENT
485 Quirino Avenue, Tambo, Parañaque City
email : **randy.sarmiento@nifcs.net**

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2nd Floor MWSS Engineering Building,
Katipunan Road Balara, Quezon City
Telefax Nos. 926-5233; 926-5234

JOB OPENING

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS – GRADUATE OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE OR ARCHITECTURE WITH AT LEAST TWO YEARS RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE. APPLICANTS WITH SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE IN SITE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, CONCEPTUAL AND DETAILED DESIGN, COST ESTIMATION, BIDDING AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF LINEAR PARKS AND SITES AND SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN BLIGHTED AREAS WILL BE PREFERRED.

ACCOUNTANT III (SG-18) — CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, AT LEAST TWO YEARS WORK EXPERIENCE PREFERABLY IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

LEGAL OFFICER — GRADUATE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS WITH TWO YEARS RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN THE PREPARATION OF CONTRACTS AND GOVERNMENT BIDDING PROCEDURES. BAR PASSER.

Interested applicants must submit their application together with transcript of records, diploma or certificate of graduation at the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PPRC), 2nd floor MWSS Engineering Building, Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City.

COST U LESS
Enterprise
Bringing U Value & Excellence Everyday

We are looking for a highly qualified candidate to be a part of our dynamic team.

Position : **ACCOUNTING STAFF**

Responsibilities : Responsible in handling account payables; analysis and reconciliation of accounts.
Knowledgeable in different government reports such as BIR, SSS, PhilHealth, and Pag-ibig

Requirements : Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy
Must have previous work experience in account payables
Willing to work long extended hours and render overtime
Must be computer literate
Demonstrates ability to communicate effectively and professionally with internal and external associates
Full time position available

Human Resources Department / CUL Warehouse Stores Philippines, Inc.
#82 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Libis, Quezon City
joannedelosreyes@yahoo.com
Interested applicants may look for Jo Anne de los Reyes
from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm – Monday to Friday

AMO
ADVANCED MEDICAL OPTICS

Advanced Medical Optics, AMO is a U.S. based technology-driven global medical device company focusing on vision improvement. We are a leader and trusted partner in helping the world achieve the best possible vision. We are dedicated to delivering innovative technologies that provide eye care professionals and patients with superior technology and the highest quality of products and services. The company has operations in about 20 countries and markets products in approximately 60 countries.

We are looking for dynamic, committed and experienced individuals to join the Philippines-based sales team for our products as:

A) Sales Manager, Surgical

The Job:
- Establish and achieve assigned organizational sales objectives
- Formulate and implement sales strategies
- Prepare and present territorial sales performance and competitive trends

Requirements:
- Basic Degree in any discipline
- At least 5 years experience in sales, marketing & business development
- Knowledge in sales & distribution of medical or technical products
- Tactful with strong negotiation, interpersonal and motivational skills
- Strong communication and presentation skills
- Must possess own car and willing to travel

B) Application Specialist

The Job:
- Delivers technical expertise for analytical solutions to customers
- Provide on-site application support for medical equipment
- Conducting technical training and product demonstrations
- Work closely with manufacturing to resolve customer technical issues.
- Work with Sales Team to support organizational sales objectives

Requirements:
- Diploma/Basic Degree in Engineering
- Good analytical skills and troubleshooting of technical issues
- Strong communication and presentation skills
- Must possess own car and willing to travel

C) Sales Representatives, Surgical

The Job:
- Meet or exceed assigned personal sales objectives
- Plan and establish effective territorial call cycle
- Build up good relationship with key customers and distributors
- Report routinely key competitor and customer trends to improve territory management

Requirements:
- Basic degree in any discipline / and or relevant experience and qualifications
- Team player with self-motivation, and perseverance towards achieving results
- Excellent selling and customer service skills
- Strong communication and presentation skills
- Must possess own car and willing to travel
- Fresh graduate are welcome to apply

A competitive remuneration package commensurate with qualifications and experience will be offered to the right candidate. Interested applicants please apply in confidence with resumé, passport picture, and transcript of records to:

HRD DEPARTMENT
C/o MICROLAB
2636 Tramo Line cor. Alvares St.
Pasay City, Philippines
Email: recruit.my@amo-inco.com

HIMLAYANG PILIPINO PLANS, INC.

is urgently seeking applicants for the position of:

Asst. Vice President
for TRAINING (Sales & Marketing)

- Male or Female, 36 to 50 years old
- Graduate of at least a four-year course
- Has expertise of at least five (5) years in the conceptualization or design, delivery or implementation and evaluation of training programs in an insurance or pre-need environment
- Has an experience of at least five (5) years in managing a corporate unit or department, preferably Training
- With sales and marketing exposure in an insurance or pre-need setting
- Proficient in oral and written communication
- With attractive personality, capable of relating and interacting productively and harmoniously with people, especially sales and support personnel.

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply in person, Monday to Friday, with application letter, curriculum vitaé, transcript of records, and 2x2 ID photo, or send these to this address:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
#1610 Triumph Bldg.,
6th Flr. Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel. No. 927-9671 to 75 loc 230/216

Or e-mail to: lanie_alfonsozeta@yahoo.com;
nek long@yahoo.com; hpihppi@info.com

We likewise welcome applicants who are graduates of Accountancy, Marketing, and other business related courses for our other vacancies

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PHILIPPINE
GEOANALYTICS, INC.
First ISO/IEC 17025 Accredited Laboratory

Philippine Geoanalytics, Inc., the country's first ISO/IEC Guide 17025 Laboratory and industry leader in materials testing, is in need of the following technical personnel:

Materials Civil Engineer – for Field and Main Laboratory assignment (w/or w/o DPWH Accreditation)

Materials Civil Technician – for Field assignment. Experience not necessary, comprehensive training will be given

Interested applicants may apply in person with Resumé & ID Picture at 85 Kamuning Road, Quezon City or visit our website: **www.pgatech.com.ph**
or email us at **pgamain@pgatech.com.ph**

Look for Ms. Josie Villaviray/Mitchie Alinsug

PHINMA
PHILIPPINE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC.

A group of companies involved in areas of property development, financial services, energy and power generation, and education.

The company is in need of:

Litigation Lawyer

☐ Male or Female
☐ Not more than 40 years old
☐ With at least 2 years experience in litigation
☐ Experience gained from similar industry is an advantage.

Interested applicants may send their resumé, college transcript of records, and license/certificate of bar completion to:

PHINMA-HRD
12F PHINMA Plaza,
#39 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center,
Makati City 1200
Fax no. (632) 470-0466
e-mail: hdpicson@phinma.com.ph

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jay c. designs
is in need of the following

GRAPHIC ARTIST
Male or Female; 21 years above; College Graduate
Knowledgeable in Coreldraw 11 & Photoshop 7

SALES EXECUTIVE
Male or Female; 21 years above; Experience in Sales is an advantage; Good Strong and charming voice. Fluent in English and Filipino; Good communication skills; Computer literate; Organized; Diligent and Self-Driven; Mature and trustworthy; Knows how to drive and willing to do field work

Please submit resume with recent picture at:

JAY C. DESIGNS, INC.
142 Road 3, Pagasa, Q.C. Tel No. 927-1776
5/F, Bldg. A, SM Megamall Tel. No 636-6298
LGF, SM City North EDSA Tel No. 927-4160
email: jaycdesigns@pacific.net.ph

IMMEDIATE NEED OF A
PRINCIPAL!

- Must be between 35 years old – 55 years old
- Masteral Degree in Education / Administration
- L E T Passer
- At least 10 years experience in Education
- Must be well rounded and have pleasing personality

E-mail your resumé at
Education_888@hotmail.com

ADD Group of Companies is a group of companies focused on Human Resource Development and Real Estate Development. Its four companies, ADD Force, ADD International, ADD Professional Consultants and Multi-Addweal are in need of competent individuals to fill in the following positions:

Operations Manager
1. Graduate of Psychology or any business course in a reputable university, preferably with an MBA/MA Degree
2. Has at least 6 years of work experience, 3 of which are in a supervisory/managerial level in an HR/customer-oriented environment
3. Has both sales and operations background
4. Preferably has worked in an ISO certified company
5. Highly adept at implementing/organizing systems and procedures

Business Development Head / Sales Manager
1. Graduate of any business course in a reputable university (preferably Sales & Marketing), preferably male
2. Has at least 3 years of work experience in the same industry
3. Has the capacity to lead a team of Marketing Coordinators
4. Has established networks and connections abroad, preferably in US, UK, and Middle East

Business Development Officer (for Manila office and branches)
1. Graduate of any business course (preferably Sales & Marketing)
2. Has at least 2 years of work experience in the same capacity, preferably in the recruitment industry
3. Has established networks and connections within the Philippines
4. Enthusiastic and persuasive
5. Willing to relocate in Cebu or Davao (for provincial applicants)

Technical Consultant
1. Graduate of any Engineering Course (Mechanical, Civil, Industrial, Chemical, Electronics and Communications, Computer, etc.)
2. Has at least a year of technical work experience

Nurse Interviewer
1. Graduate of Nursing
2. Has 2-3 years of actual nursing experience in a major hospital.
3. Willing to do recruitment for nurses

Recruitment Consultant
1. Graduate of Psychology, Human Resource Management, Business Management, or any related course
2. Has at least 6 months of experience in recruitment
3. Has good business correspondence writing skills and process orientation
4. Willing to do field work from time to time
5. Applicants with engineering, IT, or any technical background are also encouraged to apply.
6. Applicants in Cebu and Davao may also be considered for the position.

Field Recruiter
1. Graduate of any business course
2. Enthusiastic, persuasive, convincing, and trustworthy
3. Can converse with different types of people
4. Willing to do travel around the Philippines

Web/Application Developer
1. College graduate of an IT, Computer Science or similar course
2. Has at least 2 years of experience in developing dynamic websites using C#.NET, HTML, SQL Server and ASP.NET, Dreamweaver, HTML, DHTML
3. Possesses the following technical expertise: Development/Programming skills, Application Server skills, Database Management

Accounting Assistant / Payroll & Billing Assistant / A/R Assistant
1. Graduate of Accounting, CPA preferred
2. With at least 1 year of experience in General Accounting, Payroll & Billing, or Accounts Receivables
3. Residents of Cebu and Davao are also encouraged to apply

Liaison Staff
1. Male graduate of any course
2. Has at least 6 months of experience working with POEA or as a liaison officer
3. Licensed driver
4. Has a good sense of direction
5. Persuasive and has a good disposition

Office Staff / Marketing Assistant
1. Graduate of Mass Communications, English, Journalism, Marketing or any related course
2. Artistic and efficient in using different computer programs

All candidates must:
Possess excellent communication skills, have a keen eye for details, be results-oriented, organized, analytical, flexible, trainable, able to work under extreme pressure and willing to work long hours.
Interested applicants may send their resumes and transcript of records to cdelacruz@add.com.ph. Please indicate the position you are applying for in the subject line.

ADD | Group of Companies.

4 & 5/F Pilar Building, 148 Amorsolo St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City
www.add.com.ph

An expanding progressive consumer good company is offering career opportunities for the following to be based in:

METRO MANILA or **LAGUNA**

HR MANAGER
IT PERSONNEL
ACCOUNTANTS
ACCOUNTING CLERKS/BOOKKEEPERS
LAWYERS
SALES MANAGER
SALES SUPERVISOR
KEY ACCOUNT MANAGER
SALESMAN
SALES STAFF
ENGINEERS & TECHNICIANS
R&D PERSONNEL/CHEMISTS
REGISTERED NURSES
INVENTORY CLERKS
COMPANY DRIVERS
CANTEEN PERSONNEL

Qualifications:
- Preferably with 1 or 2 years working
- Computer literate / familiar with Windows & Office
- Proficient in English and Tagalog
- Good oral & written communication skills

Qualified applicants may send in your detailed resume, transcript of records, and clearances together with an inexpensive photo to:

PERSONNEL MANAGER
P.O. Box 380
1502 Greenhills, Metro Manila, Philippines

Service Resources, Incorporated

YOUR MANPOWER SPECIALIST

We are leading manpower service provider for 25 years and we are in search of CANDIDATES who are highly competent to fill up the following positions:

A. For a food processing company in Laguna Technopark, Binan, Laguna

- **Q.C. Inspectors**
  Not below 21 yrs. old, Food Tech graduate & willing to work on shifting schedule & with at least 1 year related experience
- **Line Leaders**
  At least 25 years of age, college level, can do simple computations, with leadership quality & with at least 1 year related experience
- **Production Crews**
  Not over 35 years old, college level, preferably with experience in food processing company

B. For a distributor of IBM computers in Makati City

- **IT Sales Staff**
  22-28 years old, Computer Engineering or Science graduate from a top rated school, preferably with 1 year experience, proficient in current Windows Operating Systems & Applications and has hardware & software troubleshooting knowledge
- **Purchasing Assistant**
  Female, 21-28 years old, graduate of any 4-year business course, with at least 1 year experience in the areas or procurement & supply chain gained from any industry, literate in Windows application, with excellent negotiating skills, resourceful, strong qualitative & analytical skills & knows how to deal effectively with suppliers
- **Logistics Staff**
  Male/female, 21-24 years of age, graduate of any Engineering course or Customs Administration, preferably licensed broker, with related work experience, computer literate

C. For a Telecommunication company in Makati City

- **Project Engineer**
  ECE graduate, with experience in telecommunication installation, RF Planning, BTS & microwave commissioning
- **Programmer**
  Graduate of any related course, with experience in JAVA & SQL
- **AUTOCADD Operator**
  Graduate of any related course, with experience in 2D or 3D for documentation purposes

D. For the Executive Office of a Food processing company in Makati City & a Forwarding company in Manila

- **HR Staff**
  Male/Female, 21-27 years of age, Psychology or Behavioral Science graduate, with at least 6 months experience in HR & admin functions particularly in Recruitment & Training

E. For an Advertising company in Makati City

- **Telemarketers**
  Graduate of any course, preferably with telemarketing experience, good communication skills, customer and goal – oriented.

F. For an Automotive Dealer company in Alabang, Muntinlupa City

- **Sales Executives**
  20–30 years old, Business course graduate preferably major in Business or Marketing, pleasing personality, with valid driver's license, willing to do fieldwork, with good communication & interpersonal skills
- **Systems Analyst Programmer**
  20 – 30 years old, BS Computer Science/Engineering or IT graduate, at least 1 year experience in RDBMS, VB6/VB.net programming, Crystal Report Design, SQL (T-SQL, Stored Procedures & Triggers) programming, if with Web Design experience: has basic page layout knowledge & at least 6 months experience with coding in html, dhtml and css & knowledge in scripting languages:ASP or VBScript
- **IT Tech Support Assistant**
  18–30 years old, Graduate of any computer-related course, has the ability to evaluate computer equipment & operating systems for purchase or leasing, basic understanding of network architecture & protocols, knows how to configure computer equipment to work in the network architecture, experienced in computer equipment installation, configuration, maintenance & upgrading, could maintain software application changes & system problems, classifying & prioritizing changes & implementing the required changes.

G. For various clients in the Electronics Industry

- **Production Operators**
  Single, not over 27 years old, at least 5'2 in height, college level & 20/20 vision

H. For a Taiwanese Technology company in Subic

- Male/Female, Graduate of any engineering or related course, with at least 3 years experience in Sales & Marketing, knowledgeable in Windows XP & Office, an applicant has an advantage if he/she has orientation in mechanical, electronics and electrical design or in sales or marketing, fluent in English and Japanese language, able to communicate well and has strong interpersonal skills, dynamic, a team player, goal – motivated, loyal & trustworthy.

J. For our internal requirements

- **HR Coordinator/Marketing Staff**
  Male, Psychology, Marketing or Industrial Engineering graduate, preferably with experience working in a manpower or any service-oriented company, can deal effectively with all kinds of customers, good communication skills, resident or willing to be assigned in Laguna & must know how to drive
- **Payroll Staff**
  Female, preferably Accounting graduate, with at least 1 year experience in handling payroll processing, willing to be assigned in Laguna and very trustworthy

Interested applicants may apply personally with updated resumé & latest photo at :

**Unit 205 Bormaheco Cond., Metropolitan Avenue, Cor. Zapote Street,
Makati City
Tel. Nos. 8971410 / 8966145
Email address: sri_rm@sri.ph**

Hotel PonteFino
BATANGAS CITY

A Fine Filipino Hotel

Is currently looking for hotel professionals to fill-up the following positions:

HR / RECRUITMENT MANAGER

- Is adept in all facets of HR functions, with emphasis on recruitment, manpower sourcing, payroll and benefits administration, and HR and administrative office management.
- Is highly adaptable and flexible; possesses management and monitoring skills.
- Works extremely well under pressure.
- Resourceful, innovative and creative.
- Highly organized, detailed and goes an extra mile.
- Graduate of Behavioral Science course; Female; preferably single; not more than 35 years old.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM MANAGER

- Highly proficient in hardware/ software installation and maintenance preferably with background in systems/ program management.
- Is adept in database and communication system administration.
- Background in hotel systems, a must.
- Possesses management, coordination and training skills.
- Is highly personable.
- Male; graduate of computer-related course

CLUB MANAGER

- Is knowledgeable in managing club sports and leisure activities of the hotel.
- Has experience in supervising and coordinating club activities such as membership events, banquets, sports and fitness-related programs.
- Handles the safety, sanitation and maintenance of the club facilities.
- Has people management and training skills.
- Has background in boutique operations, marketing, and membership sales generation; financial management skills an advantage.
- Preferably between 30-35 yrs. old.

PR & EVENTS MANAGER

- With at least 4 years PR and events management experience; hospitality industry strongly preferred.
- Can develop and execute marketing & communications strategies to increase the company's media and corporate exposure and position to external audiences.
- Can initiate proactive media relations.
- Able to serve as media contact and represent the hotel.
- Highly personable and proficient in English.
- Preferably female, not more than 35 yrs. old

F&B OPERATIONS MANAGER

- Minimum of three years management experience in a multi-operational type of establishment.
- Can think on his feet, highly flexible and possesses a vision for quality and excellence in food & beverage operations.
- Possesses marketing and revenue generation skills.
- Training skills a big plus.

CHIEF ENGINEER

- A licensed Electrical or Mechanical Engineer.
- Knowledgeable in controls (PLC); with hands-on experience in PABX system, computer set-up, CCTV, fire alarm system, CATV, and switchgears.
- Knowledgeable in operating and troubleshooting Gen Sets.
- Has experience in managing a technical team; possesses coordinating and training skills.
- Knowledge of safety management, an advantage.
- Male, Not more than 35 years old.

SECURITY OFFICER

- With minimum of two years experience as Security Officer in a hotel; license is a must.
- Reliable, trustworthy, and has no integrity issues.
- Graduate of Criminology course, at least 5'8 tall, male.

**These positions are Batangas-based.
Residents of Manila and nearby provinces, however, are welcome to apply.**

Interested applicants can bring or send their resume (with ID picture) and application letter to:

**Human Resource Department
Hotel Pontefino**
Bgy. Gulod Labac, Batangas City
or
HR Management Group
24th Flr., IBM Plaza, Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City

Email: hrd@pontefino.com.ph

MostCom
Philippines Ent. Inc.

Engineers for development of next generation Value Added Services

MostCom Philippines Enterprises, Inc. was established in April 2002 having its registered office in Pasig City, Philippines. MostCom Philippines is a subsidiary of MostCom Scandinavia AB registered under the laws of Sweden since 1998 with its operational headquarter in Taby outside Stockholm. MostCom is a service oriented company providing services within the field of telecommunications and other utilities, including engineering, design, data conversion, documentation and installation of various telecommunications systems.

To continuously develop our skills and knowledge with the aim to become a leading service provider within the fields of engineering, design, implementation, and integration of different telecommunications systems, we are now looking for competent personnel.

We are looking for **skilled engineers** with well documented background from developing, testing and integrating services such as mobile IN (Intelligent Network), messaging and Mobile Data solutions for fixed mobile and the next generation network. The candidate should have substantial experience and understanding from developing telecom services.

We are also looking for **SW-engineers** with well documented background from database development, User interface development (java, html programmers) and telecom access protocols.

Candidates for these works must be fluent in English in both writing and speaking and be ready to travel.

For the right persons, we can offer a good package and work in an international environment.

If you are interested please send your CV to **cv@mostcom.se** and mark the mail with "IN-Engineer" before 15th of April 2005.

A subsidiary of SUMITOMO HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD. of JAPAN
needs

JAVA PROGRAMMERS

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Computer Science graduate or graduate of equivalent courses
- Have sound programming knowledge using Java
- Knowledge in Japanese is an advantage
- Resourceful and self-learner
- Willing to work as a team
- Male or Female not more than 24 years old
- With good moral character

Qualified applicants must bring the following requirements:

- Comprehensive resumé
- Diploma/Certificate of Graduation
- Transcript of Records
- 1 pc. 2x2 latest ID picture

***Apply personally from Monday to Friday
Previous applicants need not apply.***

SHI DESIGNING & MANUFACTURING, INC.
32nd Floor, Raffles Corporate Center, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

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SANTA FE
RELOCATION SERVICES

Santa Fe, a leading relocation services company provides household goods moving, office relocation, tenancy management, settling-in assistance, cross-cultural training and many other related relocation services solutions.

We are seeking a self-motivated team player for the position of:

Manager, Relocation Services

The Job:

- Responsible for developing and marketing relocation services and the continual development of its services.
- Responsible for identifying new business opportunities and formulating strategies.
- Responsible for the management and development of an effective and responsive team to meet the changing market needs.

Requirements:

- Professional degree.
- With at least 5 years' relevant management experience.
- Expatriates Management experience.
- Conversant with prevailing HR practices, legislation and trends in the region.
- High degree of integrity.
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, communication and administrative skills.
- Team management skill.

Please fax or e-mail with a detailed resume indicating current and expected salaries, full personal and career details, contact number and a recent photograph by 15th April 2005

Santa Fe Moving &Relocation Services Phils Inc
Attn: HR dept
Fax number + 632 838 8190
Email: human.resources@santafe.com.ph

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

A leading multinational engineering and construction company is in need of:

ENGLISH-SPANISH TRANSLATING ENGINEER

1. WITH THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:
   - Male
   - With good Spanish and English communication skills (both oral and written)
   - With engineering background, preferred but not essentially required.
   - Willing to travel abroad
2. SALARY & COMPENSATION
   - Negotiable

Interested applicants are requested to send their resumé complete with the necessary proof of qualification not later than **April 15, 2005** to the following address:

**Suite 702, 7th Flr., Manila Astral Tower Condominium,
1330 Taft Avenue corner Padre Faura Sts., Ermita, Manila
For further inquiries, please call at Tel. No. 522-3781**

VISAYAN FORUM FOUNDATION, INC.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The ***Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.***, a Manila-based non-government organization (with regional offices in Batangas, Bacolod, Davao, Iloilo and Matnog), that works for the protection and development of marginalized migrants especially domestic workers, trafficked women and children is urgently in need of the following:

**(1) LICENCED SOCIAL WORKER
(TO BE BASED IN MANILA)
(1) LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER
(TO BE BASED IN ILOILO)**

Qualifications:

- Graduate in social work
- Experience in NGO developmental work, specializing in children's rights, child labor or women's welfare is an advantage
- Extensive experience in case management and handling of children in distress
- Has the ability to work with a team
- Good in oral and written communications
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal relations, especially with children
- Willing to work stay-in

Interested applicants may apply personally and bring with them their application letter, together with comprehensive resume and other credentials. They may also fax, mail, or e-mail their application directly to the:

**The Executive Director
Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc
4/F RFM Corporate Center
Pioneer cor. Sheridan Sts., Mandaluyong City
Tel #631-81-01 locals: 7401, 7421
Telefax: (02) 634 06 83
Email: admin@visayanforum.org
visforum@pldtdsl.net**

Note: Only qualified applicants will be notified. Deadline for submission of application is on or before April 15, 2005

BINONDO MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

One of the leading retailers and distributors of local/foreign magazines and periodicals nationwide urgently needs God-fearing individuals to fill-up the following positions:

1. **EDP PROGRAMMERS**
2. **WEBSITE DEVELOPERS**
3. **WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR**
   - ❖ 23-30 years old, graduate of any computer science course
   - ❖ with extensive experience in web applications in retail sales
   - ❖ willing to travel and work in shifts
4. **JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT**
   - ❖ 23-30 years old, female, accounting graduate
   - ❖ with extensive experience in retail and inventory management
   - ❖ willing to travel and work in shifts
5. **HR ASSISTANT**
   - ❖ 23-30 years old, female
   - ❖ with extensive experience in HR and labor relations
   - ❖ willing to travel
6. **DRIVERS**
   - ❖ With professional drivers license
   - ❖ Knows the ins-and-outs of Metro Manila

Applicants may send comprehensive resumé with portfolio and 2x2 ID picture to:

BINONDO MEDIA PUBLICATIONS
622 G/F Esquire Center, Gomezville
corner Guerrero St., Addition Hills,
Mandaluyong City 1550 (across 9 de Pebrero-Shaw Blvd.)
e-mail. bmp_subscriptions@yahoo.com

**We will reply only to qualified applicants.
Previous applicants need not apply.**

McKinsey & Company is a global consulting firm advising the top management of leading companies and institutions on issues of strategy, organization, operations, and technology. We have more than 80 offices worldwide including a global practice dedicated to business & IT strategy called the Business Technology Office (BTO). In Asia, BTO spans across Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Seoul, Tokyo and Mumbai.

In a Manila-based position, the Recruiting Assistant will support the BTO Asia recruiting team in driving the processes involved in recruiting consultants into the practice from various local and overseas sources. He/she will ensure that all administrative requirements are met in the various stages of recruitment.

Recruiting Team Assistant

Your Role:
- To oversee the overall recruiting administrative processes for BTO Asia, ensuring compliance with Firm and local office policies
- To manage, track, and analyze recruiting data as well as extract reports from the recruiting databases; Maintain a comprehensive database & filing system and be able to create reports when needed
- To handle incoming applications – record information, perform initial screen of CVs, send out necessary correspondence, and direct applications to the right contact person
- To help coordinate logistics for various recruiting events, working closely with the recruiting coordinator(s)
- To provide ad hoc support for various recruiting initiatives as needed

Your Profile:
- Outstanding organizational and administrative skills; Ability to carry out multiple tasks independently and willing to take initiative
- Strong written and verbal skills with high attention to detail
- Professional, approachable and confident personality able to work with all levels of staff internally and externally
- Able to handle and resolve competing demands in a timely and professional manner
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, while still contributing to a friendly and fun team atmosphere
- Basic technical skills such as familiarity with MS Office, Lotus Notes and online databases preferred

Your Qualifications:
- Undergraduate degree from one of the leading universities
- 1-3 years previous work experience in a multinational company or other professional services firm, preferably with their human resources or IT department

We offer a highly competitive compensation and benefits package in line with experience and qualifications.

To apply: Please forward a detailed resume with salary expectations in strict confidence via e-mail at **manilarecruiting@mckinsey.com** on or before April 13, 2005. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

McKinsey&Company

Ministry of Health
Majuro, Marshall Islands

URGENTLY NEEDS

(1) STAFF PHYSICIAN / OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGIST (ENT Specialist)

SALARY : $31,000.00 – $35,000.00 Per Annum

FRINGE BENEFITS : Housing allowance, sick & vacation leave, Life & Health Insurance, Travel to duty station and return to point of recruitment.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS : Graduation from a recognized Medical Institution including completion of regular internship in an approved hospital plus at least 2 to 4 years experience as an Otorhinolaryngologist (ENT Specialist)

DUTIES : Oversee and manage the ENT medical services and act in the capacity of the Otorhinolaryngologist/ENT Specialist, in doing so, the physician is expected to use his/her medical knowledge and skill in the field Otorhinolaryngology to examine, diagnose and treat patients including performance of appropriate surgical procedures at in-patient and out-patient clinics, assist/co-manage patients as deemed appropriate with other members of the Medical Staff, Oversee and supervise training of appropriate support staff as Audiometrist, operating room nurses, assist Bureau of Primary Health Care in its outpatient clinics, make recommendations to the Hospital Administrator in improving ENT services, conduct continuing education classes to medical and other health care providers, carry out other duties as assigned by the Chief of Staff such as coverage of on call duties at the emergency room, participation in Medical Staff Committee, etc.

Interested applicants should personally register and submit in a cream folder, updated resumé, diploma, transcript of records, certificates of employment, copy of board rating, PRC Card / Certificate, training certificate & photocopy of passport if any, to the:

PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION
MANPOWER REGISTRY DIVISION, WINDOW I
Ground Floor, BFO Bldg. (formerly POEA Building)
Left Wing Lobby
EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong City

"Mag-ingat sa mga Illegal Recruiters"
Interview will be conducted by employer on 11-13 April 2005

Abbott Laboratories

"To be the Premier Health Care Company in the Philippines"
is our Vision.
The existence of Abbott in the country for more than 60 years is a tangible expression of this commitment, providing innovative products and services that span the continuum of care — from prevention and diagnosis to treatment and cure.

Professional Medical Representatives

PEDIATRIC NUTRITION - GMA, Luzon, Visayas

...The Driving Force behind the success of Abbott This is an Entry Level Field Sales position that prepares high potential individuals for successful management careers in Sales, Marketing (Product Management), Training, Business Development, Human Resources and General Management. It is a job that requires emotional maturity, a lot of discipline and focus, professionalism, high tolerance for stress and frustrations, but can be very rewarding...

Qualifications:
- University graduates, any four or five year degree courses;
- Strong interpersonal and team skills – actively participated in extra curricular activities in school or community;
- Very good communication and presentation skills with the ability and aptitude to learn and understand effectively information of medical science nature;
- Licensed drivers are preferred;
- Importantly, must be willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines;
- With or without previous work experience, recent graduates from Manila and the provinces are encouraged to apply.

Qualified applicants should proceed to:
DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY OF THE PHILIPPINES (DAP)
San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center,
Pasig City
on ***Tuesday, April 12, 2005***
for interviews.
Please bring updated resume with 2x2 picture and transcript of records.
www.abbottrecruitment.com.ph

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☐	☐	*Are you a LADY college grad, 5'3 or taller, 23 - 32 years old, attractive enough for a front-line position?*
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☐	☐	*Are you qualified to work in any of the following positions:* EVENTS MARKETING SPECIALIST / INTERIOR DESIGNER, MARKETING OR CLIENT SERVICES ASST. OR MANAGER

If you qualify, please email resume in MS Word with picture to:
profileoverseas@globelines.com.ph

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Dynamic SPORTS CORPORATION

One of the leading sports companies is in urgent need of:

MARKETING COORDINATOR

- Female or Male, 25-30 years old.
- College degree in Business, Marketing, Advertising or any related course.
- Possesses above average communication skills, both verbal & written.
- At least 3 years experience in the field of Marketing / Advertising.
- With experience in advertising, promotional marketing, & events management.
- Knowledgeable in graphic design specifically in Corel Draw, Photoshop & Adobe.
- Good in conceptualizing and implementing plan & strategies.

GOLF SALES EXECUTIVE

- Female or Male, 25-35 years old.
- College degree in Business, Marketing or any related course.
- Possess above average communication skills, both verbal & written.
- At least 3 years sales experience with proven track record.
- Willing to travel nationwide
- Preferably a golf enthusiast

ACCOUNTING CLERK

Female, single, 22-25 years old, graduate of any 4-year course, with or without experience, computer literate and willing to do fieldwork.

THIS IS AN URGENT REQUIREMENT.

Interested applicants may send resumé at:
5th Floor K-Plaza Bldg., 18 Kamuning Road, Quezon City
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We are in need of best-in-market talents to fill up the following positions with their corresponding qualification requirements:

Consultant – Handset New Markets (Managerial level)

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree in any field.
- With good planning and organization skills
- Background in inventory management
- Background in negotiation
- Possesses Strong leadership skills

Sr. Product Manager (Supervisory level)

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree or Post Graduate Diploma/ Master's Degree in Sales & Marketing or equivalent.
- At least 2 to 5 years of working experience in marketing
- Extensive exposure in product strategies, researching/ identifying market needs, positioning, pricing and product performance
- Extensive exposure in product marketing activities (secondary duties): monitoring, preparing marketing reports, creating market messages, lead generation
- Must possess/have the following skills:
    - Market research skills, coordination/ project management skills
    - Analytical skills and strategic planning skills
    - Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills

Account Management (AMS) / Sr. Account Management Specialists (Sr. AMS)

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree in Business, Marketing or Management.
- Minimum of two (2) years hands on experience in the Business Center or any related field. (For Sr. AMS)
- Minimum of one (1) year hands on experience or on the job training in Business Center functions or any related work experience. (For AMS)
- Must possess/have the following skills:
    - Analytical skills required and keen attention to details
    - Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills
    - Leadership skills required

Cashiers

- Graduate of Bachelor's / College Degree in Finance/Accountancy Banking, Commerce or equivalent.
- At least two (2) years of working experience in the field of cashiering and telleting.
- Customer service oriented
- Willing to be assigned and / or be transferred to any business centers due to the operational business requirements of the company

Customer Service Associates / Assistants (CSA)

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree preferably Business, Marketing or Management
- Previous related experience not necessary
- Analytical skills required and keen attention to details
- Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills

Sr. Engineer (Innove Communications-Network Development)

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree (Passed Board Professional License Exam) in Electrical Engineering, BS ECE and or BS Mechanical Engineering
- At least 4 years of working experience in the design of Outside Plant Network
- Basic Knowledge of F.O Technology
- Can work independently/ under minimal supervision
- Must possess/have the following skills:
    - Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills
    - Good analytical skills
    - Good Negotiation skills

Sr. Engineer (Innove Communications-Network Operations)

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree (Passed Board Professional License Exam) in Electrical Engineering.
- At least 3 years of hands-on working experience
- Must be able to operate test equipments and analyze results
- Must be able to drive service vehicles
- Working knowledge in VoIP, IP Telephony, IP-VPN, IP-Sec
- Working knowledge in Cisco Family of ATM Switches, Distribution and Access Equipment (BPX, MGX, GSR, TSC, etc.)
- Knowledge in DSL and DSLAM, Optical Transport, Networking Monitoring Systems and Tools, Wireless LAN, MxU, Servers and Firewall, Internet Application, IP, ATM, FR, TDM
- With background in conducting technical training

Account Manager

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree preferably Business, Marketing or Management.
- With sales experience.
- Exposure to industries such as Banking, Insurance, IT, Logistics, Transportation and Retail.
- Confident and with pleasing personality
- Independent and self driven
- Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills

IT Cadets

- Graduates of SY 2004-2005 from any of the following degree courses: BS COMPUTER SCIENCE, COMPUTER ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS or any computer related courses belonging to top 10% of the class
- Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills
- Must possess strong leadership and analytical capabilities
- With high aptitude in programming & systems analysis and design

Corporate Project Managers

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree in Business Management, IT or related courses
- With at least 5 years solid experience in handling enterprise wide business projects
- Consulting experience
- Competent stakeholder influencing and management
- High learning agility and flexibility
- Project Management Competent
- Creative decision making and problem solving skills
- Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills

Systems Administrator

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree in ECE, CoE or any 4-year computer programming courses
- At least 3 years of system administration experience; at least 2 years as a direct system administrator
- Experience in a mixed OS and database environment including Win2K, UNIX, SQL and Oracle
- Must have hands-on infrastructure experience in a 24x7 environment
- Knowledge of system management, analysis of system outages, utilization of DB and System Performance Tools
- Ability to create and maintain custom scripts for PERL, JAVA, SQL, ORACLE etc.
- Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills
- Strong customer service orientation
- Any oracle experience, an advantage
- Must be willing to work on extended hours / shifting

Database Administrator

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree in any IT course
- Support to 24x7 operations
- At least 3 years experience in an IT operations preferably in the Telco environment
- Experience in HP-UX, Sybase, Oracle and NT Applications, an advantage
- Experience in software development life cycle and project management
- Knowledgeable in C/C++, PERL, UNIX shell script, PL/SQL, Power Builder, Relational databases
- Strong business and user orientation
- Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills
- Above average knowledge in Software Development Life standards and practices
- Must be willing to work on extended hours / shifting

Systems Security Risk Assessment

- Graduate of Bachelor's/College Degree in Computer Engineering or equivalent.
- Knowledge in Security Risk Assessment
- Knowledge in using vulnerability assessment tools
- Knowledge in installing/ Security Unix (Linux, Sun, HP) Windows Operating Systems
- Knowledge in Security Design and Implementation of Firewalls, IDS, Routers and Wireless Network
- Technical writing and documentation skills
- With exposure in planning, security design and security verification of VAS
- Exposure in DATA/ IP Network Infrastructure which will cover WAN, LAN and WLAN, Security Infrastructure (Firewall, IDS, VPN)
- Unix and Windows System Training (preferred)
- Willing to work in shifting schedule

Order Fulfillment & Service Delivery Specialist

- A graduate of any 4-year course
- At least 2 years of working experience, preferably with telecommunications background
- Can work with minimum supervision
- With experience in sales support, order handling or account analysis
- With above average communication skills
- Knowledgeable in MS Office applications such as MS Excel, Word and Powerpoint

Sr. Financial Analysts (Managerial level)

- Bachelor's degree in either Finance, Accounting, Economics, or Management preferred
- Having an MBA or finance related postgraduate degree and/or a CPA and or a CFA charter holder/CFA candidate is an advantage
- A minimum of 3-4 years of corporate finance, valuation experience in a consulting firm, investment bank, accounting firm or major corporation (preferably in financial planning & analysis or strategic finance)
- Exceptional intellect and superior problem solving skills
- Well developed quantitative and financial modeling skills, including the ability to undertake sophisticated financial analyses
- A strong understanding of the principles of corporate finance, valuation techniques and financial statement analysis
- An appreciation for and strong interest in the integration of strategy and finance.
- Ability to work well under tight deadlines in a fast-paced, team-oriented, intense environment.
- Highly motivated detail-oriented team player with ability to manage multiple tasks and meet stringent review deadlines.
- Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills

Sr. Specialist for Portal Management -Internal Communications

- Must be a graduate of Computer Science/Management Information Systems, specifically with knowledge and experience in web or portal design, development and management; or Communications Technology/Mass Communication (or related courses, e.g. Broadcast Communication, Audio-Visual Communication, Journalism)
Management, Marketing/Advertising and HR-related courses will also be accepted IF with relevant skills and experience.
- Must have at least 2 years experience in a corporate environment
- Must have at least 2 years in web or portal design, development and/or management: corporate communication, advertising/marketing, production, or journalism
- Must have strong skills in web or portal design, development and/or management (including significant experience/portfolio to show for each)
- Photography/videography
- Basic skills in the following are a big advantage:
    - Events management
    - Graphic design using Adobe applications
    - Project management
- Must possess/have the following skills:
    - Satisfactory business communications and interpersonal skills
    - Strong interpersonal skills
    - Strong leadership skills

HR Specialist (Labor and Employee Relations)

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resource Management, Legal Management, or equivalent.
- With familiarity in Philippine Labor Laws
- 1-3 yrs experience in Human Resources or equivalent, preferably in Employee and Labor Relations
- At least 2 years of working experience in Labor Relations and/or Employee Relations.
- With experience in Corporate Events Management and Basic Project Management Skills
- Preferably with skills in Graphic Design, networking skills
- Background in Events Management and Labor Relations.
- Applicants must be willing to work long hours / weekends especially during projects/events

Interested parties who meet the above requirements may apply through www.globe.com.ph
Or you can send your resume with 2x2 picture and a photocopy of your transcript of records at the
3rd Floor Globe Telecom Plaza Tower 1,
Pioneer cor. Madison Streets, Mandaluyong City 1552

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

Asst. Banquet Manager

Female & highly personable, HRM or Marketing graduate, with excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with extensive experience in sales & marketing work preferably gained from a dining restaurant and computer-literate

Kitchen Supervisor

Female, at least 26 years old, with supervisory experience in kitchen oepration of a fine dining restaurant, with working knowledge on manpower planning & control, and can work effectively under pressure.

Customer Service Officer

Female, 21-30 years old, at least 5'4" in height, college level, with experience preferred, articulate, and with pleasing personality

Reservation Staff

Female, 21-30 years old, HRM or Marketing graduate, highly personable, with good communication & interpersonal skills, with experience in sales & marketing work gained preferably from a fine dining restaurant, and computer-literate

Submit resumé, TOR and
2x2 photo from Monday to Saturday,
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at
Shangri-La Finest Chinese Cuisine
4 Times Street, West Triangle,
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The successful candidate will be responsible for leading the field force in proper market segmentation, promotion of products and evaluation of potential business opportunities. This includes training, developing and measuring the progress of his/her Medical Representatives. The ideal candidates should have:

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- At least 2 years experience in the same capacity gained from top pharmaceutical companies
- Exposure in sales training, marketing services or product management
- Strong leadership skills in managing, influencing, developing and coaching his / her team in achieving targets
- Highly adaptable to a fast paced and dynamic environment
- Highly customer oriented and results focused
- Willing to travel and be relocated in provincial territories

Interested applicants may send their resumes to 2/f Asian Reinsurance Bldg. Gamboa cor. Salcedo Sts. Legaspi Village Makati, or email to
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- Will be responsible for attaining the branch's target financial volume through deepening of existing accounts and acquisitions
- Will also be in charge of planning & implementing sales & service strategies of the branch
- Must have 3-5 years related banking experience in aggressive account generation
- Preferably not more than 42 years old
- Preferably residents from Metro Manila, Tarlac & Cebu

▪ LOAN OFFICERS

- Must have 2-3 years related experience in account solicitation of auto, housing & salary loans
- Preferably not more than 32 years old
- Preferably residents from Metro Manila, Bulacan and Dagupan

OTHER POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

▪ NEW ACCOUNTS CLERKS/ TELLERS/ ACCOUNTING STAFF

*** The candidates for the above mentioned positions MUST be graduates of any business related courses.**

Visit us or send your application letter, resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 photo on or before April 30, 2005 to:

Position: ____________
THE RECRUITMENT OFFICER
RCBC Savings Bank - Human Resources Management Division
2F Pacific Place Bldg. Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Tel. No. 6347006

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- Male or female, not more than 30 years old
- College degree holder, Automotive sales experience is an advantage
- Strong professional sales customer service skills.
- With pleasing personality, excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

BODY & PAINT INSURANCE MARKETING OFFICERS

- Graduate of any 4 years course, male or female not more than 30 years old.
- Knowledgeable in Insurance Policies and estimate repair cost.
- With experience in Body and paint marketing.
- With pleasing personality and excellent communication skills.

SERVICE ADVISORS

- Graduate of Engineering or Automotive Technology
- Excellent in oral and written communication skills, computer literate.
- Knowledgeable in Trouble shooting and diagnosis of vehicle.
- With at least 2 years experience as Service Advisor.
- Customer-oriented and must possess strong leadership qualities.

FINANCE & INSURANCE BUSINESS SUPERVISOR

- Not more than 27 years old; male or female
- Business Management graduate.
- With proficient business skills and strong understanding of Finance & Insurance sales to New Vehicle Customers.
- Excellent in oral and written communication skills.

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé with 2 x 2 picture at:

HUMAN RESOURCES AND ADMIN DEPARTMENT
CHEVROLET PASIG
92-102 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Bo. Ugong, Pasig City
Tel. Nos. 672-1617 / 535-4937
E-mail: rcevangelista@mydestiny.net
gmshaw_hrd@licaautomotive.com

We are an ISO-certified Multinational Group of Companies with global representations; engaged in various businesses, all wholly committed to quality service and customer satisfaction. We are presently looking for highly motivated individuals to fill the following positions:

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

College degree holders with at least 2 years work experience in a related capacity;
With excellent working knowledge of the IT industry;
Capable of formulating and implementing marketing plans and strategies;
With highly developed interpersonal and customer service skills;
Excellent verbal and written communication skills;
Computer literate.

SYSTEMS ANALYST / PROGRAMMER

At least 22 years old, Graduate of any computer-related course;
With at least one (1) year experience in enterprise-wide system analysis, design and development;
Excellent working knowledge of MS Access, VB6/VB.Net;
Excellent oral and written communication skills;
Fresh graduates with outstanding programming skills are also welcome to apply.

Send your comprehensive Curriculum Vitaé with recent 2x2 photo before April 18, 2005 to:
Corporate Human Resources
290 Gen. Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila
hrd@cfsharp.com

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- College Graduate, Fluency in English conversation
- Computer literate
- Hardworking, competitive
- Organized, flexible and can work without supervision

Qualified applicants are requested to MAIL immediately their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:

INTER-PAC, INC.
4/F ALCO Bldg., 391 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue,
1209 Makati City

WANTED

1 COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

- Graduate of any computer course
- With at least 3 years work experience
- Willing to work long hours
- Can work with minimum supervision

Apply personally 9:00 am-3:00 pm at 305 Ansa II Bldg., 1078 Don Chino Roces Ave. cor. Montojo St., Makati City. Pls. bring your resumé and transcript of records. Look for Ms. Ann.

DUZON EDUIN a Korean-based company opening an educational call-center in the Phils., is in need of the following:

Position:	Requirements:
English Teachers	Bachelor's degree in English, Education or mass communication. Must be proficient in English. Experience in teaching is an advantage
Secretaries	Bachelor's degree in Secretarial or Business Admin., must be fluent in English
Internet Technician	Bachelor's degree in Computer engineering. Has experience in networking and trouble shooting

Interested parties may submit resumé at:
902 Alabang Business Tower, 1216 Acacia Ave.
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa
Fax: (02) 771-1800

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CENTRAL WATERSYSTEM, INC. (CWI) is the exclusive water supply system management of Brittany, Crown Asia and Camella projects in the Philippines. At present CWI is serving a total of 250 Subdivisions, covering 51,000 homeowners. CWI is also managing 200 deep wells all over the Philippines.

We are looking for young, dynamic and highly motivated individuals who can fill in the following positions:

SENIOR ENGINEER / TECHNICAL HEAD

- 33-35 years old, Male
- With at least 5 years experience in water system projects (i.e. deep wells, tanks, sewer treatment plants, filter, pipelines)
- High communication skills (written and oral), excellent leadership skills and people skills
- Licensed Civil Engineer or Mechanical Engineer or Electrical Engineer

LEGAL ASSISTANT

- 24-26 years old, Male
- Graduate of AB Political Science or AB Legal Management
- With experience is an advantage

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- 21-23 years old, Female, Certified Public Accountant
- Willing to be assigned in our Las Piñas Office
- Must be hardworking, flexible and adept in computer applications.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS / CUSTOMER CARE ASSISTANTS

- 21-23 years old, Female
- Graduate of any 4-year business course
- To be assigned either in our Mandaluyong or Las Piñas Office
- Should possess high communication skills
- Adept in computer applications

ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER

- 21-23 years old, Male
- Licensed ECE
- Hardworking, team player and has high people skills
- Preferably a resident of Makati, Pasay, Parañaque or Las Piñas City
- Willing to be assigned in Antipolo or Bacoor Office
- 1 year experience in Cable TV an advantage

You may send your RESUMÉ and TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS to:
Human Resources Department
Central Watersystem, Inc.
Unit 12 Starmall Apartelle, Edsa cor. Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City 1552

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Branch Manager *Male/Female not over 35 years old. With pleasing personality. Preferably with at least six months retailing experience. Highly "trainable". Preferably living in the Greater Manila Area. Results Oriented. Computer literate. Has good communication skills both written and oral. Must have a degree in marketing or management course. Highly Creative and Definitely must have passion for Technology.Good Compensation and Benefits Package*

Technician (PC BASED) *Male/Female not over 25 years old, Preferably living in the Greater Manila Area. Results Oriented. Knows how to deal with customers. Has an in depth knowledge on PC hardware parts and software. Must have a diploma or degree in any computer related courses. Must have one year exp with PC hardware trouble shooting/assembly and software installation/configuration.*

Technician (GAME CONSOLES) *Male/Female not over 25 years old. Preferably living in the Greater Manila Area. Results Oriented. Knows how to deal with customers. Must have a diploma or degree in any electronics course. Must have one year exp. with the troubleshooting and repair of different types of game consoles.*

Accounting Assistant *Female not over 30 years old. Preferably living in San Juan. Results Oriented. Proficient in business application software. Must have a degree in accounting and must have a keen eye on details.*

All applicants must submit their resume (with a 2x2 photo) and cover letter to:
Silvergate Group of Companies
219 Wilson St. San Juan, Metro Manila
Philippines 1500
Fax: 727-3300 Tel: 727-8053 (email) silvergh@info.com.ph

IIRR

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) is a global intermediary development organization working in several countries with the poor and their communities as our partner, enabling them to improve their lives and achieve their full potential. At present, IIRR is seeking to fill the post of:

Policy Advocacy Specialist

Reporting to the Director, Regional Center for Asia, the Policy Advocacy Specialist is primarily responsible for planning and coordinating program activities related to a Regional Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) policy project. The post will require policy advocacy, networking, action research and organizational / facilitation / training skills. The post holder shall develop innovative policy advocacy and/or CBNRM related initiatives in line with IIRR Regional Center for Asia program goals and objectives including project ideas, international courses, customized courses and technical assistance. The successful candidate should have the following: a degree related to policy, sociology, rural development or other related discipline and ideally with additional qualification in a Natural Resources Management related subject, masters degree preferred; at least five (5) years experience in CBNRM policy related work and a demonstrated familiarity with existing actors involved in CBNRM policy advocacy in the Asia region; experience in action research and participatory approaches and methodologies; strong analytical skills and proven track record in documentation/publishing; experience in organizing and facilitating workshops and training courses; demonstrated ability in conceptual and operational skills suited to project management including experience in staff supervision, project administration and financial management; experience in resource generation activities, including networking, developing concept notes and proposals; excellent written and oral skills in English; computer literate; excellent interpersonal communication skills in a multidisciplinary and multicultural work environment; and must have ability to take initiative as well as be a team player.

This post is based in Silang, Cavite. Qualified applicants should send a letter of interest not later than May 31, 2005, together with curriculum vitae; contact information; three letters of reference with address and contact numbers; recent passport-size photograph; and transcript of records to:

The Human Resources Office
International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
Km. 39, Aguinaldo Highway, Silang, 4118, Cavite
Tel: (046) 414-2417/(02) 886 4385; Fax (046) 414-2420/(02) 886-4385
E-Mail: HumanResources@iirr.org or visit our website: www.iirr.org

IIRR is an equal opportunity employer.

ACCOUNTANT & OFFICE CLERK

- Female with pleasing personality
- 20 to 24 years old
- Single
- College graduate & computer literate
- Fluent in english both oral & written

CALL 886-08-01 TO 08,
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DABAGHY ESTABLISHMENT FOR TRADE & SERVICES

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is in need of the following categories:

COOKS – w/ 2 yrs. exp. in Seafood Restaurant, knowledge in food preparation/ presentation (fish dishes)

WAITRESSES – w/ exp. in hotels & restaurants, knowledge in food handling, serving, tablesetting

DOMESTIC HELPER – at least high school graduate, can speak English, 21 to 38 yrs. old

Interested applicants may report for personal interview with 2 sets of detailed Resumé with job description, 5 pcs. colored pictures, diploma, employment certificates, training/seminar certificates to:

BM SKYWAY GENERAL SERVICES & TRADING
POEA License 484-LB-100202-R
2114 M.H. Del Pilar St., Malate, Manila
Tel. 3033023/ 3033026 Fax: 3033024

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B

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We are domestic company engaged in Pharmaceuticals and as part of our expansion program we are looking for

MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES

who will handle our new imported products from Europe

Qualifications:

- Male or female (18-25 years old)
- Graduate or Undergraduate of any related courses
- Proficiency in oral and written communication
- Preferably with sales experience but not necessary
- Hardworking, self-motivated and willing to travel
- Good Moral Character

ACCOUNTING/AUDIT STAFF/STOCK CLERK

Qualifications:

- Must be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy or Business Administration
- Highly analytical, honest and hardworking
- Computer literate
- Knowledgeable in preparing financial statements
- With experience in handling stocks

Due to the urgency of our requirement qualified applicants were advised to handcarry their resumé at:

2nd Floor A&M Building
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City
(near St. Peter Parish Church)

Previous Applicants Need Not Apply.

Are you up for the challenge?

Global Sources (Nasdaq: GSOL) creates and facilitates global trade between buyers and suppliers, by providing the right information, at the right time, in the right format. Our integrated sourcing and marketing solutions enable importers to buy, and exporters to sell, more effectively and profitably.

Our winning team of 1,800 people worldwide is skilled, tech-savvy and thrives in a dynamic, cross-cultural environment. If this sounds like you, then we are currently looking for:

Content Officer

You will write corporate news and reports, and solicit and edit articles from team members, managers and department heads for the company Intranet.

You must have a bachelor's degree in Journalism, Communication Arts or a related discipline, with some experience in corporate communications or public relations. Proficiency in writing and editing news, feature and business reports and a sound knowledge of the Internet, HTML and MS Office applications are necessary qualifications. Excellent communication, interpersonal and leadership skills, a good eye for detail and an ability to read and write basic Chinese are an advantage.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international, dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details, along with two sample written works, no later than April 18, 2005, to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
Online: career.globalsources.com
Email: gshr@globalsources.com
Fax: (632) 892 4087
Post: P.O. Box 4597, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com

RAMCAR TECHNOLOGY

URGENTLY NEEDS THE FOLLOWING:

ASSISTANT MOULDMAKERS

22-30 years old; Male
Graduate of Technical/Vocational course
With 3-5 years experience in Moldmaking or Machine Shop

MACHINISTS

20-28 years old; Male
Technical/Vocational course graduate
With at least 2 years experience in Machine Shop Operation

ASSISTANT MACHINE ASSEMBLERS

30-35 years old; Male
Technical Course Graduate
With minimum of 5 years experience as Machine Assembler

CNC OPERATORS

19-28 years old; Male
Graduate of Technical course
Must have basic knowledge or training in CNC Machine Operation

CAD/TOOLING DESIGNERS

20-28 years old; Male
Any Engineering Course (Preferably M.E.)
Knowledgeable in AUTOCADD or any equivalent design software.
Experience in Machine or Mold Design for Plastic is an advantage.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY
WITH THEIR RESUME AND 2X2 I.D. PICTURE TO:

THE CORPORATE RECRUITMENT SECTION
(BATTERY GROUP)
RAMCAR CENTER 80-82 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Q.C.
(ebmuscat@motolite.com)

FT
FINANCIAL TIMES

The *FINANCIAL TIMES*, one of the world's top sources of business news and information, is expanding its Manila operations and requires:

TELEMARKETER / CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPPORT

Requirements:

- University graduate or its equivalent
- 2-3 years telemarketing and customer service experience
- Experience with follow-up orders from existing clients and able to develop new customers
- Solid experience in handling customer complaints
- Excellent command of both oral and written English
- Knowledge of Japanese or another Asian language a distinct advantage
- Good PC and software skills
- Strong interpersonal skills, proactive, self-motivated and willing to learn
- Willing and able to work on variable shifts including weekends and holidays as required
- Previous experience working for a multinational company

Interested applicants should post their detailed resumé, cover letter and most recent photograph to The HR and Administration Manager at the address below not later than April 18, 2005:

Financial Times Philippines
42nd Floor, Philamlife Tower,
8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Visit our website www.ft.com

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eTELECARE PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT.
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eTELECARE NAMED AS ONE OF THE OFFSHORE 100'S TOP 10 LEADERS IN HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BY NEOIT, THE LEADING OFFSHORE ADVISORY AND MANAGEMENT FIRM AND CMP'S MANAGING OFFSHORE, THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR GLOBAL OUTSOURCING MANAGERS.

This citation is very special as it recognizes not only our drive for excellence but also the value we put in developing our workforce. eTelecare is the only call center with presence in the Philippines that has been given this honor.
We sharpen our people to become industry leaders, we leave no stone unturned:

- World-leading behavioral programs like Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, DDI's Interaction Management, Project Management, Problem Solving and Decision Making, which are typically given by other companies to managers only, are made available to every employee at eTelecare.
- More than 100 people are dedicated to look after the training and career development of each employee. Compared with industry standards, we have twice as many people coaching, mentoring and providing support to our front liners.
- Over P130 million have been spent in producing training programs tailor-fit to the individual's level of competence and character. That amount is enough to put up a building, but eTelecare chose to invest it in people development.

The facts show, the experts agree, that when it comes to people development, the mark transforms plain minds to sharp ones.

MANILA CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

OPERATIONS
- Inbound Sales Associate (preferably with sales experience)
- Outbound Sales Associate (preferably with sales experience)
- Multilingual Customer Service Associate (French, Japanese, Portuguese, Dutch, Russian)
- Site Director

FINANCE
- Internal Audit Manager

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- Business Analyst
- Senior Analyst
- Senior Programmer
- Project Manager

CORPORATE GROWTH AND PLANNING
- Contract Quality Assurance Manager

CEBU CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

OPERATIONS
- Team Leader
- Quality Assurance Manager
- Operations Manager

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- Telecoms Specialist
- IT Manager

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
- Organizational Development Trainer
- Organizational Development Officer

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MAKATI HUB:
12/F PBComm Tower
Ayala Ave. cor. V.A. Rufino St.
Makati City
April 18 & 19, 9AM-6PM

EASTWOOD HUB:
20/F CyberOne Building
Eastwood City Cyber Park
Bagumbayan, Q.C.
April 11&12, 18 – 22
9AM-6PM

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  Cebu: (032) 411-9010/9030
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  Eastwood Office: 20/F CyberOne Building
  Eastwood City Cyber Park
  Bagumbayan, Quezon City
  Cebu Office: 6/F PIPC Engineering Sciences Bldg.
  Asia Town IT Park, Salinas Drive
  Lahug, Cebu City 6000
- E-mail your resume to —
  Manila: recruiting@etelecare.com
  Cebu: ceburecruiting@etelecare.com
  or www.etelecare.com
- Fax your resume to —
  Manila Recruiting: (02) 687-4841
  Cebu Recruiting: (032) 415-8458

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We are a multinational manufacturing company in need of the following:

- Licensed Mining Engineer or recent board passers are encouraged to apply. Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines.
- An Occupational Health Nurse with minimum qualifications set by Occupational Safety and Health Standards (OSHS). Has work experience in a high performing manufacturing company which is particular on Safety Health and Environment. Preferably a resident of Bataan.

Applicants may send their curriculum vitaé to the following

HR and Admin Manager
7/F Guada Building
No. 31 EDSA Mandaluyong City
Or thru
cbaulos@orica.com

CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL and MEDICAL CENTER

286 BLUMENTRITT STREET, STA. CRUZ, MANILA

is presently in need of the following:

INFORMATION & ADMITTING CLERK
RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST
PHARMACIST
MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

Please bring the following: Resumé, Transcript, Diploma, PRC ID, Board Rating, Board Certificate, NBI/Police Clearance, 2x2 Colored Picture, character ref. w/ phone no., and personally submit together with the original documents to the Personnel Office, Grd. Flr. Main Bldg.

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POS SYSTEM PROVIDER

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

WEB DESIGNER / C PROGRAMMER

- Male or female ; with pleasing personality
- Graduate of Computer Science or any related course
- Proficient in **C/C++ LANGUAGE with background in LINUX; PHP, HTML** and **MySQL** is an advantage
- Dedicated and hard working; TEAM player
- Can work under minimum supervision & able to handle pressure

Interested applicants may send their resumé with recent photo at the following address or via e-mail

JIMAC INCORPORATED
HR DEPARTMENT
Penthouse Floor TC Plaza Building
near cor. Cordillera St. Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel No. 742-6832, 742-6840 loc. 117
e-mail address: hrd@jimac-inc.com

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER

- Male or Female, single, at least 30 years old
- Graduate of HRM/Business Studies/Mgt. or its equivalent
- With at least 3 years of working experience and has technical competency in all facets of HR and Admin. functions
- Must be keen to details, well-organized and people oriented
- Proficient in both oral and written communication
- Computer literate

Send your detailed resumes to:

PHILKOEI International Inc. (PKII Engineers)
4F Pacific Star Bldg., Makati Avenue corner
Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City 1200
website: www.philkoei.com.ph; e-mail: mails@philkoei.com.ph
Tel. No. 818-4729; Fax No. 817-0244

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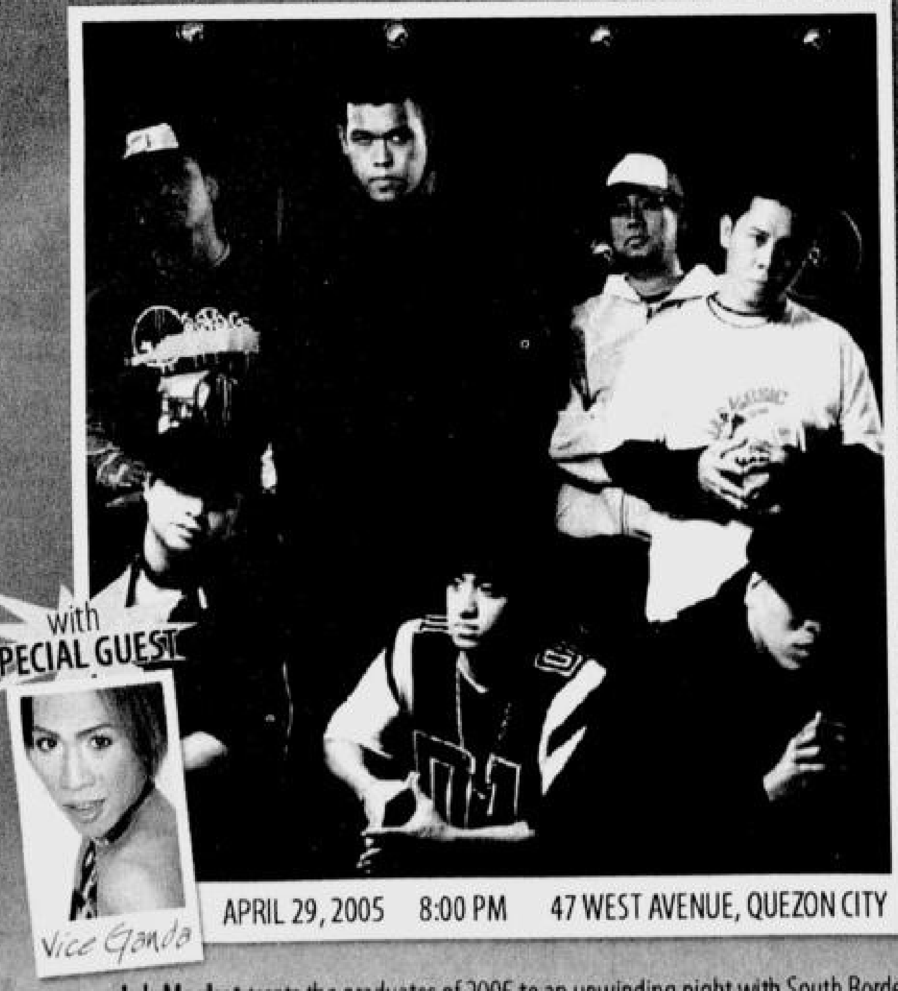

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Job Market treats the graduates of 2005 to an unwinding night with South Border, win **FREE** tickets by attending **JOBZ: Employment Expo 2005** at Megatrade Hall 1, SM Megamall on April 28 - 30, 2005.

For ticket inquiries, please call 911-5555 or visit www.ticketnet.com.ph or Metro Comedy Bar at 374-7505.

For the benefit of Hands On Manila Foundation.

HANDS ON MANILA FOUNDATION INC

WAVE 89.1

EDS MANUFACTURING, INC

Anabu II-A Imus, Cavite
(A Japanese firm that manufactures automotive wiring harness)

is in need of competent

STAFF ACCOUNTANT 3

Graduate of B.S. Accountancy; Female; Single; Computer Literate

ANALYST PROGRAMMER

Graduate of B.S. Computer Science or any related course; Male or Female; Single or Married; skilled in programming preferably with knowledge in VISUAL BASIC, VISUAL FOXPRO, JAVA RPGLE (plus factor)

PRODUCTION PLANNER

Graduate of any Engineering Course; Female; Single

COMPANY NURSE

Graduate of B.S. Nursing; Male or Female; Registered Nurse

CANTEEN/ STAFFHOUSE COORDINATOR

Graduate of Hotel and Restaurant Management or B.S. Nutrition; Single or Married

Interested applicants may apply personally or contact Ms. Roda Novero of Human Resources Department at tel nos. **(02) 711-9911 local 281; (046) 471-3939** or email us at **hrd@emiyazaki.com.ph**

A foreign commercial bank with full operations in the Philippines is seeking to employ an individual for the position of:

Internal Audit Assistant

Minimum Qualification/Experience:

- College degree in Accounting preferably CPA
- At least one (1) year experience in bank audit
- Proficiency in MS Office applications specially in Excel and MS Access

Interested persons who meet these requirements are required to apply in writing to:

HR Department
Box No. 146
c/o Classified Ads Department
Philippine Daily Inquirer, G/F Atrium of Makati Building,
Makati Avenue, Makati City

And enclose the following documents

1. Comprehensive Resumé
2. Transcript of Record
3. Telephone/Contact Number/e-mail address, and
4. Recent passport sized photo

Selection process for applicants will include series of interview. Application closes on 29 April 2005 **Only successful applicants will be notified.**

Member - PDIC

JOB Market **VISIT US AT: www.jobmarketonline.com**

A big publishing company is urgently in need of creative, innovative, and hardworking individuals for its expansion program:

	Schedule of interviews
1. Writers and/or illustrators of manga	April 06, 2005 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
2. Illustrators for romance pocketbook covers	April 06, 2005 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM
3. Writers of romance novels in English	April 07, 2005 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
4. Writers of chick lit in English and Tagalog	April 07, 2005 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
5. Cookbook consultant (preferably a graduate of Nutrition, Food Technology, Home Economics, and other related courses)	April 07, 2005 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Interested individuals must personally submit their comprehensive resumés at:

#83 Sgt. Rivera, SFDM, Quezon City.

Writers residing outside Metro Manila may send their resumés thru mail or email (Email address: **phr@pldtdsl.net**)

For inquiries, please contact **Ms. Jane Constantino** at tel no.: **3676222.**

Learn Spa treatments

Perk Spa now offers a **10-day hands-on training** to those interested to acquire a practical and profitable skill i.e. **Foot Reflexology, Thai Massage, Facial with mask**

- Training includes 120 hours practicum at **Perk Spa** handling real clients
- Certificate of Attendance will be given to participants who have successfully completed the course
- Possibility of regular employment for outstanding students
- Limited to ten (10) students per batch. Registration is from 11 April - 15 April 2005.
- Classes start April 25, 2005. **First-come-first served.**

For inquiries, please call 815-2271.
Look for Ms. Princess

A Progressive Bank needs...

BRANCH MANAGER – Male or Female; Preferably a resident of Sta. Rosa, Laguna; w/ at least 5 years banking experience, personable, ambitious, marketing/goal oriented.

SENIOR CREDIT ANALYST / LOAN APPROVING OFFICER – Male/Female; Candidate must have a 5 years experience in bank or in any financial institutions with expertise in credit policy & processing.

CREDIT & COLLECTION OFFICER – Male, 2 years experience in different kind of Collection & of Real Estate Loan; knowledge in handling legal cases.

ACCOUNTANT – Female; Accounting Graduate; preferably a resident of Rizal, Laguna and Cavite. Fresh graduates are welcome to apply. Willing to be assigned in nearby provincial branches.

***FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING. Send application letter with comprehensive resumes and transcript of record to:

HRD Manager at BMS Bank Center
#12 C Raymundo Ave., Rosario, Pasig City

MANAGER / COMMUNICATION AIDE

- Candidate must be fluent in mandarin or fookien
- College Graduate of any course
- At least more than 1 year managerial experience in retail store
- Must be smart/people oriented
- At least 25 years old above but not more than 35 years old.

Qualified applicants must bring resumé, NBI clearance, police clearance, previous employers certificate and call 853-16-88 for appointment and look for Ms Imee

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BOOKKEEPER/SEC
Female, Single
Prof. BS Comp. Sci grad.
Send Resume w/2x2 pic
62 D Cordillera St., Q.C.
Tel# 4166050/7311757

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# 1 International Retail Software in Philippines.
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GENIE
TECHNOLOGIES

Is looking for qualified candidates for the following positions:

Technical Manager
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree or Post Graduate Diploma / Master's Degree in Engineering (Computer/Telecommunication), Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent.
- Experience in Retail. Preferably with experience in RetailPro Software
- 5+ years of technical experience
- Prefered skills: Delphi, XML, VFP, VB, Oracle
- Project management/planning skills
- People/resource management
- Excellent communication/presentation skills, attention to detail

Senior Technician
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent
- Must have at least 3 years experience in Retail
- Work experience in RetailPro software is an advantage
- Experience in handling POS machines is an advantage
- Excellent communication skills

Programmer
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Computer Science/Information Technology or equivalent
- Required skills: Delphi, VB, VFP, SQL, XML, Oracle
- Must have experience in Retail industry. Work experience in RetailPro software is an advantage
- Has at least 2 years of programming experience

All applicants must be willing to travel / work across the country at short notice.

Please send your resume with a recent picture or apply in person to:
Ms. Jessica Tuazon, Branded Lifestyle, Inc.
Tel. No.: 8129999
2247 Kodak Bldg. Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City or email us at hr@bli.com.ph

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A MULTI-NATIONAL FILIPINO-JAPANESE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IS URGENTLY IN NEED OF:

CIVIL/MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
Licensed Civil/Mechanical/Electrical Engineer, with at least (5) years experience in bidding and construction of high-rise building.

CADET CIVIL/MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
B.S. Civil/Mechanical/Electrical Engineering graduate, can work long hours and willing to work even holidays.

AUTOCADD OPERATORS
B.S. Civil Engineering graduate of B.S. Architecture graduate with a minimum of three (3) years experience in vertical construction.

PLANNING ENGINEER
Licensed Civil Engineer with a minimum of five (5) years experience in Primavera and in vertical construction.

Note: Opening is only three (3) to four (4) months contract for bidding of vertical construction project. If successful, they will be placed on the project.

Requirements: Curriculum vitaé with detailed job descriptions, certificates of employment, school credentials and recent 2x2 colored pictures.

APPLY IN PERSON AT:
SUMMA KUMAGAI INC. - KUMAGAI GUMI JOINT VENTURE
4th Floor Pelbel Building 1, #2019 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tel. #636-61-73
(In front of Jade Palace Restaurant)

DYNATRAVEL

is in need of

(2) TICKETING AGENTS
and
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Qualifications:

- Must have at least 2 years experience in a travel agency
- Must be able to book and issue tickets using Galileo and Abacus
- Must have good skills in sales and marketing
- Must be hardworking, trustworthy, dedicated and must have a pleasing pesonality
- Must be willing to work in Makati

If you think you are qualified in any of the positions please submit your resumé at DYNATRAVEL INC. Unit 4-G Classica Condominium I 112 HV Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or email to francis@trip-mart.com

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UPTREND

Join the exciting world of entertainment as

SALES and MARKETING EXECUTIVE

- Male, not more than 30 years old
- A college graduate
- Above average oral and written communication skills
- Able to work late hours and with minimum supervision

Please hand carry your comprehensive resume to:

The HRD Department
4/F, 20 Landsberg Place,
170 Tomas Morato cor. Sct. Castor St.,
Quezon City

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

1) **SR. MATERIALS ENGR. (DPWH ACCREDITEDMATLS. ENGR. II)**
8-10 years experience on roads & bridges construction supervision

2) **OFFICE ENGINEER**
3 years minimum experience in construction supervision
Computer literate

Apply at Technika Group Corp.
6F P&L Bldg. 116 Legaspi St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. 815-3157

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14th Floor, Rufino Pacific Tower Ayala Ave. Makati City, Philippines 1200
Tel. Nos. (632) 811-6725 Fax (632) 811-6723 www.xaxmusic.com

(1) MARKETING COORDINATOR
(1) ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONS COORDINATOR
- MALE / FEMALE
- COLLEGE GRADUATE
- AT LEAST 3 YEAR EXPERIENCE IN THE SAME CAPACITY AND FIELD

(1) ASSISTANT MANAGER (FOR BAR OPERATIONS)
- FEMALE
- COLLEGE GRAD. (HRM)
- 3 YEAR EXPERIENCE IN THE SAME CAPACITY AND FIELD

(1) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
- FEMALE
- COLLEGE LEVEL

(1) SOUND ENGINEER
- RECORDING / MIXING WITH PROTOOLS SOFTWARE
- 3 YEAR EXPERIENCE

(1) A&R COORDINATOR
- MALE / FEMALE
- COLLEGE GRADUATE
- AT LEAST 3 YEAR EXPERIENCE IN THE SAME CAPACITY AND FIELD

(1) LIGHTMAN (FOR BAR)
- LIGHTING / UTILITY (WITH LIGHT JOCKEY SOFTWARE OPERATION)

(1) RECEPTIONIST
- FEMALE
- COLLEGE LEVEL

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RESUMÉ
PERSONALLY AT XAX MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT INC.
14TH FLOOR RUFINO PACIFIC TOWER
6784 AYALA AVE., MAKATI CITY
OR EMAIL jmm@xaxmusic.com

URGENTLY NEEDED

QUALITY CONTROL ENGINEERS, C.E. or A.R., male or female, with at least five (5) yrs actual building construction experience

SAFETY OFFICERS, C.E., E.E. or M.E., preferably male with at least four (4) yrs actual experience with building projects

CADET ENGINEERS, C.E., A.R., E.E. or M.E., male or female, with good scholastic records and willing to train in building construction

OFFICE & STAFF ASSISTANTS, male or female, preferably college graduates and computer literate, hardworking and goal-oriented and with good communication skills

AUTOCAD DETAILERS/DRAFTSMEN, C.E. or A.R., male or female, preferably with at least two (2) yrs actual office experience.

Apply with picture, NBI clearance and proofs of experience at JDBEC, INC., Room-511 Doña Felisa Syjuco Building, Remedios St. cor. Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila or e-mail your resumé to jdbec_inc@yahoo.com

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WANTED

Audio-Visual Technician

- Graduate of B.S. in Electronics & Communication Engineering or Electronics related course
- Male, single/married, 22-30 years old
- Relevant experience preferably two (2) years in operating, seeting-up and minor repair of lighting, audio-visual/sound system and multimedia technology

Computer Technician Instructor

- Graduate of: B.S. Computer Engineering; B.S. Industrial Education; or Two-year Computer Technology course
- Preferably with experience and/or worked as a Computer Technician
- Passed the TESDA Trade Test for Computer Technician

APPLY PERSONALLY:

NOTRE DAME OF GREATER MANILA
Madre Ignacia Ave., Grace Park, 1400 Caloocan City
Tel. No. 361-7435

BRING: Transcript of Records, Bio-data, Handwritten Application Letter, SSS #, TIN, ID Picture (1x1)

SGV & Co

Quality In Everything We Do

SGV & Co., a member practice of Ernst & Young Global, and the leading professional services firm in the country, invites suitable and qualified candidates to apply for the following positions:

HR ASSISTANT

- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related course
- At least 2 years experience in recruitment and other HR function
- Knowledgeable in MS Office Applications
- Excellent oral and written communication Skills
- Good interpersonal skills and positive work attitude
- Willing to work long hours

LIBRARIAN

- Graduate of BS Library Science, BS Education major in Library or any computer related course
- Not more than 30 years old
- Possess above average oral and written communication skills
- Has pleasing personality and positive work attitude

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Bachelor's degree holder, preferably of a business related course
- At least 3 years relevant experience
- Proficient typing skills and familiar with MS Office
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills and positive work attitude
- Willing to work long hours

Competitive compensation, benefits, world-class training and professional growth await successful applicants.
To apply, e-mail your resume to sgvhrd@ph.ey.com or mail to:

Human Resources Group
3F, SGV 1 Bldg., 6760 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SERVICES INTERNATIONAL (CFSI)

seeks qualified applicants with diverse backgrounds for the following Manila-based posts.
Those interested should submit expressions of interest as well as complete resumés by 15 April 2005 through headquarters@cfsi.ph or MCC-PO Box 2733, Makati City.
Responses will be sent to short-listed candidates only.

Legal Officer to helf meet the protection needs of refugees in the Philippines, coordinate legal services, and build sustainable links with human rights organizations. Must have passed the Philippine bar exam and have an interest in human rights law.

Project Officer to lead work with vulnerable, out-of-school youth in Pasay City, supervise social work interns, and coordinate volunteers from various academic institutions. Must have a Master's degree in social work and relevant experience.

Resource Development Officer to lead and institutionalize effective fund-raising efforts. Business or marketing degree and demonstrated success in this field are required.

Comptroller to manage accounting and finance functions in cooperation with other members of the Finance Team. Must be a Certified Public Accountant with relevant experience.

Executive Assistant to manage communications efforts and meet the administrative support needs of the Office of the Executive Director. Master's degree preferred and excellent communications skills required.

Technical Assistant to establish and maintain database as well as contribute to communications effort. Strong computer skills–including the use of MS Access–required.

CHATEAU 1771

GROUP OF RESTAURANTS

CHATEAU 1771
SENTRO 1771
PORTICO 1771
Kabor afé

Be a part of the team that has made a name in the restaurant industry! If you have a passion for excellence in service and a taste for delicious food, then our company might just be able to
Provide the perfect venue for you.
We are currently looking for prospective team players
To fill in the following positions:

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT
SERVERS • CASHIERS • RECEPTIONISTS
COOKS • F&B STAFF • BARTENDERS

To qualify, successful candidates must have an HRA/HRM or any related four-year course and at least 1 year relevant work experience.
(Fresh Graduates are welcome to apply)
Must have excellent communication skills, and thrive on customer satisfaction. Applicants must be willing to undergo training in all aspects of our operations.

If you are interested,
Send your resumé, 2x2 photo,
Transcript of Records,
And Certificate of Employment or clearance from previous employer to:

HR Management Group
24th Floor, IBM Plaza, Eastwood City,
Libis, Quezon City
Tel. No. 437-2066
email: hr@chateaugroup.com

Position Available Until April 30, 2005

Founded in 1853 by Bavarian immigrant Levi Strauss, we are one of the worlds largest brand-name apparel marketers with sales in more than 100 countries. There is no other company with a comparable global presence in the jeans and casual pants markets. Our market-leading apparel products are sold under the Levis® and Dockers® brands.

We are currently in need for a:

Dockers® Retail Marketing Manager

The Dockers® Retail Marketing Manager will be responsible for coordination of store construction and maintenance, visual merchandizing activities and in-store service that will impact direct customers and end consumers.

Requirements:
- Graduates of Fine Arts, Architecture or Industrial Engineering or any four-year degree from a reputable college or university.
- Experience in visual merchandizing in retail or similar industries. The candidate must be able to show a portfolio of his/her projects, brands and companies he/she worked with.
- Must have some architectural knowledge. Must have the technical understanding and working knowledge of architectural plan details and materials. Must likewise be able to interpret floor plans.
- Good communications skills in English and Filipino. Must display ease in interacting with people at all levels.
- Computer literate, proficient in MS Office applications
- Competency in facilitation and training. Must be able to train store personnel.
- Strong negotiation, influencing & presentation skills. Has a strong sense of initiative and can work with minimal supervision.
- Must possess at least a non-professional driver's license

Interested applicants can send their applications to:

Levi's®

Levi Strauss Philippines Inc.
20/F Tower II, The Enterprise Center,
6766 Ayala Avenue
cor. Paseo De Roxas,
Makati City 1227 Philippines
Attn: Human Resources
Email: lspi-hr@levi.com   Fax: 8898810

DOCKERS

MIT-AIR, INC.

The Exclusive Distributor of all cooling products (Room/Packaged, Car & Bus Air con, Truck Refrigeration) of **MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD** – Japan in the Philippines **URGENTLY NEEDS**

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College graduate, with at least 2 yrs. sales experience and can aggressively promote MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES ROOM/PACKAGED AIRCON in the Philippine market.

Qualified applicants are requested to apply in person or send their CV's with photo at:

MIT-AIR, INC. – HR DEPARTMENT
1531 Pedro Gil St., Paco, Manila 1007
or thru e-mail mit-air@pacific.net.ph

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KMBI

is a Christian development organization engaged in Microfinance & Bus. Dev't. Services with operations in Laguna, Batangas, Quezon, Butuan, Surigao, Bicol and Southern Mindanao

If you are a Christian professional in the field of Accounting, Research and Business Development who has an active involvement in church ministry and desires to join a professional organization that advocates poverty-alleviation and transforming lives for God's glory, we need you to fill up the following positions:

Program Assistant
- Male, single, a graduate of Psychology, or any Social Science course
- Values driven, diligent worker & team player
- Willing to do fieldwork
- Can work long hours w/ min. supervision

Admin. Associate
- Male/Female, graduate of any business or engineering course
- With at least 1-2 years admin. experience
- Self-motivated, dynamic and goal-oriented
- Knowledgeable in construction and gen. building maintenance, security, janitorial & gen. services

Audit Associates
- Male/Female, a graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team-player
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/ Mindanao
- With 1-2 years auditing experience

Business Devt. Assoc.
- Male/Female, graduate of any business or Social Science course
- With at least 2 years in-depth research & business development experience
- Proficient conducting business development and Program implementation

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture at the HRD Dept., KMBI Head Office, #12 KMBI Bldg., San Francisco St., Karuhatan, Valenzuela City or email at kmbi@skyinet.net or m_orodio@yahoo.com

Telephone Numbers: 291-1484-85; Fax No: 292-2441

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is accepting applications for the following positions:

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- **TEACHER-AIDE**

Apply in person or email your resume to:

THE ADMINISTRATOR
1273 Batangas cor. Faraday Sts. San Isidro, Makati City
844-1934 / 729-7674 / 729-7675/ 844-1615
TELEFAX NO. 815-1601
E-mail: stmary@pacific.net.ph * stmary.admin@pacific.net.ph
marcials@pacific.net.ph • Website http://www.smws.edu.ph

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REQUIREMENTS:
- Licensed Engr. for Mechanical, Electrical, Civil & Architect w/ at least 3 yrs. experienced.
- W/ or w/out experience for HRD and Office personnel; fresh grad female
- For skilled workers, they should have knowledge for the work.

Interested applicants should bring personally their resumé, NBI Clearance, Birth Certificate, TOR (for Engineers and Architect) at Unit 316 3rd Floor AD Center Square Bldg. A. Rodriguez Ave., Santolan Pasig Tel. No. 916-6569 / 900-1588 Look for Ms. Ellen Fabiana

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PRINTING COMPANY *Immediately needs the ff*

1. **ACCOUNTANT** – female, 29 to 36 years old, hardworking; can make financial Statement.
2. **BOOKKEEPER** - female; 24 to 29 yrs. old; has worked for at least 3 yrs
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4. **SALESMEN** - male or female, 26 to 32 years old, college graduate preferably with experience in sales, fluent in English & Tagalog

Apply at 139-141 Pioneer St., Mandaluyong City on April 11 & 12 (Mon. & Tues.) 2005 from 9:30am to 11:30am
Bring resume & recent photo

ACCOUNTANTS

- ✓ Male or Female, Preferably CPA
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Interested applicants may look for MS. ELLEN
27/f Chatham House
116 Valero corner Rufino Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City
9:00 am to 5:00 pm Mon-Fri
Apply in person

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Push your career in the right direction

By Ann Baehr

ARE you listening to that little voice in your head telling you how much you dislike your job? If not, you may become angry with those around you, when in fact, you'll be angry at yourself for failing to takE the necessary steps to change your career—or job within the same industry.

Career change is not always easy. For some, the simple task of deciding what to do is often the hardest part. For others who know what they want to do, they often feel it will take too long to achieve their career goals when there are bills to pay.

It is even more difficult when those around us do not understand our "crazy ideas" because they are too practical to make sacrifices for the sake of happiness. So what should you do to steer your career in the right direction without upsetting the family and draining your bank account? Here are a few suggestions to get you on the right career track to job fulfillment.

Work for yourself

Don't quit your day job just yet. Launching a business is a challenge in itself. Regardless of size, any worthwhile business takes a lot of planning, development and maintenance to compete and stay in business. The key to successful business ownership begins with a passion to do something you enjoy, followed by a financial investment that depends on the business. Sometimes it is minimal, requiring a small space and general office equipment. For larger ventures, a business loan from a bank might be necessary. Still, it takes time to turn a profit right away. So, if you can, start small while working full-time and gradually build your business until you feel secure enough financially to leave that steady paycheck to take your business to the next level. You can always hire part-time employees, student interns, friends and family members to help you in the beginning and in the long run.

Attend college or vocational training school

You don't always need to attend college full-time. If you took a few classes each semester, you'd be amazed how happy you'd be just knowing you are working towards your goal. And, it doesn't always need to be a four-year college. Maybe there is a vocational school that offers the type of academic training you need to make a career change in a shorter period of time for a fraction of the cost. Other options include distance learning programs where you can study in the comfort of your own home at your own pace.

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Change jobs internally

Sometimes happiness is only a department away! If you work for a proactive company that posts job openings internally, this might be the perfect opportunity for you to change careers while growing with the same company. Your career change can be very drastic if you have a supportive company that is willing to train you. Best of all, they might even pay for you to attend college to prepare you for that career change. If they don't post internally, keep your ears open to learn about new business development within the company. Speak with your human resources representative to inquire about career growth opportunities and what you need to do to make a career change internally.

Create a position

Sometimes you know better than anyone in the company what is needed. If you can put a business plan together to present to management illustrating how this new idea would benefit the company financially and logistically, you might succeed at creating a new position—or even a new department. This is a great way to do what you do best in a new capacity because you will be the person who will determine what the job description will be. Pretty cool!

Answer a classified ad

Again, don't quit your job just yet! You are always more marketable when you have a job. If you are ready to take drastic measures to find overnight career happiness, you should have your resumé and cover letter professionally prepared to answer those classified ads in the newspaper or online.

Even if you are just exploring the possibility of changing careers, this is a good exercise to see how marketable you are (how much money you can make), develop your interviewing skills, and to learn about what's out there beyond the walls of your office cubicle!

Old love

Go back to what you used to do—and love. Sounds crazy, right? How many times have you heard someone say, "I used to work doing such and such. It didn't pay that well, but I loved it." It is not uncommon to leave what we love because it doesn't pay the bills. Money seems like everything these days. But, when we're unhappy, we know it's really not. We need to find a compromise—something we enjoy doing that will make us want to get up every morning so we can live that old adage that claims you'll never work a day in your life if you work at doing what you love.

(Ann Baehr is a certified professional resumé writer and president of Best Resumés of New York, a leading resumé firm based on Long Island. She currently serves as second vice president of the National Resumé Writers' Association and is well-regarded as a career expert specialized in resumé and cover letter writing for cross-industry clients ranging from college graduates to senior executives. Her work has been published in over 20 resumé and cover letter books by McGraw-Hill, Jist Publishers, and Adams Media. To learn more, visit Best Resumés online at www.e-bestresumes.com *or e-mail Ann Baehr directly at* resumesbest@earthlink.net.*)*

'Compulsive borrowing is affecting my career'

From page 10★★

sand of debts.

7.Never borrow from your officemates, especially your bosses. Be constantly aware that you have an image to protect. Compulsive debtors are losers. Bosses like to promote winners.

8.Find ways to increase your income by working harder or doing additional jobs during your free time. Engage the family to help you by having a family business. If the family can't help increase your income, let them help by reducing your expenses.

9.Confront your triggering feelings. Whenever you have this compulsion to overspend, put your feelings on check. When buying groceries, have a list and stick with it. Program major expenses, plan for them, or postpone them.

10.Don't just live within your means—live below it. The simple equation of income less expenses equals savings will always be true. Endeavor to save by living below your means.

A huge debt is one of the worst things to have in your life or career. But if you manage your finances well, managing the rest of your life and career will become a lot easier.

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. He was the president of Personnel Management Association of the Philippines or PMAP in 1999. His career books are available at popular bookstores. Send feedback to ec4u@edsamail.com.ph.*)*

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Submit your resumés online.
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- Developing winning campaigns
- Databases: critical elements, sources of information
- Customer retention and relationship management
- The impact of customer service on data-driven programs

For further information, call Jasmin Runez at telephone numbers 8451324 or 7596680 or e-mail at jrunez@imperialconsulting.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB Market

The Philippine Daily Inquirer's Job Market

brings forth a special forum entitled

FREE

Maximizing Results in Your Recruitment Ads

◇ Mechanics and elements in placing a job ad
◇ Process of Job Placement
◇ Hiring the Most Qualified Applicants

When: April 12, 2005
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Where: Inquirer Main Office
2/F Multi-Purpose Hall

Those who are interested to attend, pls. call any of our Inquirer branches.

MAKATI (MAIN): MAKATI BRANCH: QUEZON CITY: MANDALUYONG: MANILA: PROVINCIAL BRANCH:

We accept Classified advertisements
Lines, Recruitment, Obituaries, Bidding

in Luzon

Bakit lalayo ka pa? Sa INQUIRER, convenient na sulit pa!

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The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

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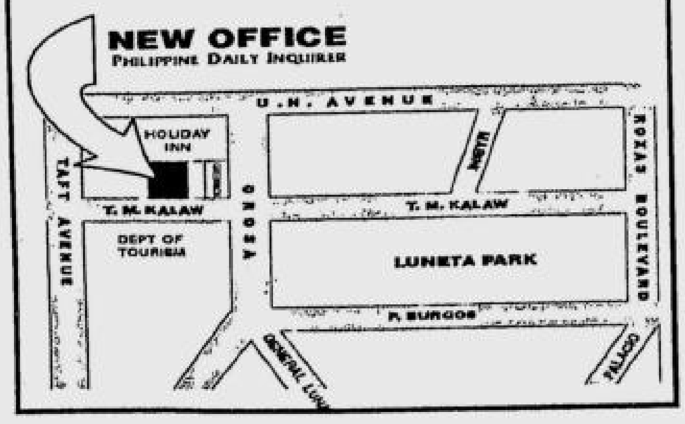

We accept Classified advertisements
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in Visayas

Diri na ta sa INQUIRER bay! Sayon na sulit pa!

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The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

We accept Classified advertisements
Lines, Recruitment, Obituaries, Bidding

in Mindanao

Ake ya tu na INQUIRER. Sirca ya, sulit pa!

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 55% according to the 2000 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

ROI Retail Operators Inc.

An exclusive distributor of sophisticated and elegant luxury timepieces is currently in need of:

SALES ASSOCIATES

Qualifications:

- Graduate of business related course from a reputable university or college
- Relevant work experience gained from a retail environment is an advantage
- Has good command of oral and written English
- Driven, charming, patient and has pleasing personality
- Male or female
- At least 22-29 years old

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Graduate of BS Accountancy course from a reputable university or college
- Can ably deal with top level officers of the company
- Knowledgeable of all accounting procedures and systems
- Willing to work long hours specially during summer and peak seasons
- Has excellent computer skills in excel
- Personable and has good command of the English Language
- Preferably female
- At least 22-29 years old

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Graduate of management related course from a reputable university or college
- Can ably deal with top level officers of the company
- Relevant inventory work experience is an advantage
- Has excellent computer skills in excel
- Personable and has good command of the English Language
- Male or female
- At least 22-29 years old

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Graduate of business course from a reputable university or college
- Five (5) years work experience in similar capacity is preferred
- With excellent skills in presentation, communication, administration and organization
- Has ability to work under limited supervision
- Capable of handling varying and complex workload
- Has excellent written and oral communication skills
- Can work well with all levels in the organization
- Mature, with a high sense of responsibility and proactive
- Teamplayer
- Female, 26 years old and above

Interested Applicants may drop their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to the address below or may come personally on Mon-Fri 1PM-6PM at:

Human Resource Department
Unit 1504 15/F Orient Square Bldg. Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center Pasig City
Or email: roi.hr@eastern.com.ph
Contact Person: Ms. Shane Tarrayo

Affiliate Companies:

TechnoMarine GENEVE
MORELLATO

COMPUTER PROJECT ASSISTANT

We are a Philippine corporation that undertakes work for international organizations.

We require the services of a computer project assistant. The successful applicant should have the following qualifications:

- Excellent written and verbal English
- Univeristy or college graduate preferably with Journalism or a Communication Arts Major in Writing degree.
- No basic computer skills necessary but they would certainly be an advantage.

Excellent benefits and working conditions are offered to the successful applicant. If you're interested in the above position, please write with details of your educational background and previous work experience.

Send to: **"Computer Project Assistant"**

Level 1, Unit 9, La Plaza Bldg. #38 Pres. Avenue
Teoville Subd.,East BF Homes, Parañaque City 1700
Fax Number: 8207923
Email Address:service@elitegrpmanage.com

Sales & Marketing Trainees

Requirements:

- Out-going & assertive
- Good communication skills
- Can work well with different groups and with a team
- Willing to go on field work
- Graduate of any field, preferably medical technology & business management

Bring your application letter and resume with picture to:

AMERICAN BIO-CLINICAL LABORATORIES INT'L.
L/G Richville Corporate Tower, Madrigal Business Park
Ayala Alabang Muntinlupa City, Philippines
Contact No: (632)850-6288/89

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING BY A GARMENT EXPORTER

A. **SENIOR MERCHANDISER**
At least 3 years experience in garment manufacturing (export)

B. **JUNIOR MERCHANDISER**
At least 1 year experience in garment manufacturing (export)

C. **QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR**
At least 5 years experience in quality management in garment manufacturing (export)
Knowledge in sewing techniques and patterns

D. **PATTERN MAKER**
At least 2 years experience
Possess strong knowledge in children's & ladies wear

Send resume with 2 x 2 photo at 431 P. Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig City or fax to 643-7720 & 642-0230

Lingkuran sa Ikauunlad Na Ganap ng Pamilya
LINGaP Foundation, Inc.

A Local Non-Government Organization working with poor families (Family Development, Education & Youth) living in depressed areas of Malabon & Navotas is in need of

PROGRAM OPERATIONS MANAGER

Job Description

- Program Monitoring & coordination
- Networking
- Supervision and evaluation
- Reports writing
- Fund raising

Requirements

- Graduate in development studies, social work or any related field
- Has good networking and fund raising capabilities
- Managerial and supervisory experience
- Experience in financial, administrative and program management
- Ability to establish good interpersonal relations.
- Willing to work in depressed areas

SOCIAL WORKER

Job Description

- Case management
- Networking
- Activities monitoring & organizing
- Supervision of Family Development Workers
- Reports making

Requirements

- Male or Female, 22 years old & above
- Registered social worker
- Experience in community-based program implementation focus in family development
- Can work with minimal supervision
- Computer literate
- Good networking skills

FACILITATOR / EDUCATOR

- Female, 25 years old and above
- Preferably graduate of BSEEd
- Able to prepare curriculum for Early Childhood Development
- Can work with less supervision
- Must be honest, creative, committed & has love for children
- Computer literate

Send resumé with cover letter, photo & copy of transcript of records to:

The Administrative Officer
LINGaP Foundation, Inc.
105 P. Aquino Ave., Brgy. Longos, Malabon City 1472
E-mail address: lfi97@info.com.ph

Previous applicant need not apply

We are a growing direct selling/MLM Company seeking more self-motivated team players in our Head Office (Quezon City) and other branches:

- **ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT, BOOKKEEPER (1)**
  - Graduate of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy or any related course
  - Must have at least 3 years experience in accounting
  - Certified Public Accountant licensure an advantage
  - Must be proficient in Windows and Microsoft Office, oral and communication skills
  - Personality must be honest, reliable, organized and a fast worker
- **INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST (1)**
  - Graduate of Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering, Accountancy or any related course
  - Must have at least 3 years experience in Inventory Management
  - Must possess excellent analytical skills, oral and written communication skills
  - Must be proficient in Windows and Microsoft Office
  - Personality must be honest, reliable, organized and a fast worker
- **SALES AND NETWORK DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISOR (1)**
  - Graduate of a four-year course
  - Loves sales with a passion and mixing with new people
  - At least 5 years experience in a multi-level marketing company in sales
  - Good analytical skills, customer service skills and of good moral character
  - Must be computer literate
- **SALES OFFICER (2)**
  - College graduate or college level in the field of Mass Comm., Marketing or any related field
  - With at least 3 years experience in sales and must possess excellent customer service skills
  - A highly motivated individual with pleasing personality and good moral character
  - Must be computer literate
  - Willing to work in Mandaluyong or Alabang areas
- **CASHIER/COLLECTION OFFICER/ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE OFFICER (2)**
  - Graduate of Commerce, with accounting background necessary
  - At least 2 years experience as an accounting clerk necessary
  - Willing to work in Mandaluyong or Alabang areas
  - With pleasing personality and good moral character
  - Must be computer literate and proficient in Mathematics
  - With good customer service skills
- **STOCK HANDLER (2)**
  - College level or College graduate
  - At least two years experience as a stock handler and inventory management
  - With good computer, analytical and customer service skills
  - With pleasing personality and good moral character
  - Willing to work in Mandaluyong or Alabang areas

All applicants must possess good written and oral communications skills and be assertive by nature. Please bring your resumé with picture in person to our Administrative Office at 722 EDSA, CUBAO or call 421-4364 from 10 am to 6 pm (Mon-Sat) for inquiries. Look for Jenny.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

REGISTERED MECHANICAL ENGINEER

(duly licensed by PRC)
for the position of

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The successful applicant will be given 3 months design training in
AIR CONDITIONING
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MECHANICAL VENTILATION
and COORDINATION WORK in
multi trade plan overlay

EQUAL-OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
MALE & FEMALE FRESH M.E. GRADUATE CAN APPLY
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Southeast Asia

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direct.dialogue@ph.greenpeace.org

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- Editorial Assistants
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Then send your resume w/ picture to:
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96-B Panay Ave., South Triangle, Q.C.
E-mail: lala_hr@speed-mag.com
Tel. No.: 374-6773
www.speed-mag.com

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- **Marketing Managers** (2 -3 yrs. experience)
- **HR Managers** (3 yrs. experience)
- **Assistant HR Officer** (1 yr. experience)
- **Purchasing Officer** (2 yrs. experience)
- **IT Researcher** (2 yrs. experience)
- **Web Designer / Developer** (2 yrs. experience) (Javascript, ASP, ASP.Net)
- **System Analyst** (3 yrs. experience)
- **Accounting Personnel**
- **Account Manager / Account Executive**

Qualifications:

- *Degree in Information Technology or any computer studies, or any course relevant to the position applied for.*
- *Fulltime and can work overtime.*
- *Master degree is a plus for managerial position.*
- *Computer Literate*

Submit your resume to:

1st IT CENTER

7373 Bakawan Street, San Antonio Village
Makati City, Philippines 1200
Tel nos. : (632) 893 - 9994, 893 - 7844
email : hrd@go2ph.net

Qatar (Int'l. Gulf Trading Co. – Chubb Fire Qatar) For Manpower Pooling

COST ESTIMATORS *with the following qualifications:*

1. Male, graduate and/or undergraduate in any engineering course could apply
2. Must be in the field of engineering discipline
3. Must have the knowledge in AutoCAD and Costing
4. Knowledge on Electromechanical and Fire Fighting is an advantage
5. Minimum of 3 yrs. working experience
6. Self disciplined and good English communication skills

Interested applicants are invited to come personally for preliminary interview prior to employer's final interview. Please submit two (2) set of resume, passport, NBI clearance, employment and training certificates, PRC license, school credentials and latest pictures (4 pcs. 2x2 and 2 pcs. whole body)

Rock Solid
實力人力仲介資訊公司
MANPOWER NETWORK & CONSULTANCY, INC.
Suites 206, 208 & 210 Federation Center Bldg. Muelle de Binondo cor. Dasmariñas St. Binondo, Manila, Phils.
Tel. Nos.: (63-2) 241-8551, 241-8545; 245-7708 FAX: (63-2) 242-2298
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Premium Agro vet products, inc.
is in need of:

AREA SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications:

- M/F, 21-30 years old;
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Idea thief is most disgusting workplace villain

By Resty S. Odon

POSTCARDS from the CORPORATE EDGE

A CHARACTER in the workplace worth bashing to a pulp is the idea thief. To this type of creature, I reserve my vast arsenal of verbal ammunition as befits the fury of an employee scorned, an unleashing for which hell perhaps hath none to match.

The idea thief is usually someone in power or at least someone near the place or person of power. He or she is a walking hallucination, a testament to the fact that a little absolute power corrupts just as absolutely.

Brainstorming sessions and power meetings are the ideal turf of the idea thief. The thief is in his or her element when fishing for novel ideas cooked up in brains other than his or hers.

Casually stealing

One employee I know was aghast at the temerity of this type of creature because the stealing of ideas was perpetrated at the most casual of conversations. On the pretext of asking her subordinate's opinion on an office project, it dawned on this creature that someone else's idea was brighter than hers and it could be of good use. Conferring with the big bosses by e-mail, the creature soon passed off the idea as all hers, hers, hers!

The higher-ups, understandably, were rightfully amazed at the ingenuity of this woman who came up with a fantastic idea they had never thought of before. "Maybe she deserves a raise, a promotion or ... a tour of the USA?"

She was seen to be "ingenious." They could have meant "foxy" and "shrewd," even "scheming." In this case, credit was given where it was not due. The next day, the creature preened with self-satisfaction even as the idea's originator was bristling in anger, feeling violated, even profaned. Meanwhile, silent witnesses were fuming mad at the audacity of the idea thief; they were toying with the twin idea of cold-blooded murder and mass resignation.

Acknowledgment

It could be that the creature had roughly the same idea beforehand, which she chose not to express. Then why didn't she exclaim, "I have that same idea!" and acknowledge the person just the same?

It could also be that the idea thief was afraid that the higher-ups may discover that her subordinates are better in a particular task than she and that she might just lose her job. But isn't it a good management credo to be glad that you got the best staff at your beck and call? It may only be a matter of time before they take over your job, but who knows? That job may be better suited to them in the first place, and you, as senior officer, are better suited to move on to another, hopefully something better, position.

Idea thieves are among those who give the corporate jungle its reputation of being just that—an Amazon rainforest. Their social decorum is impaired, their sense of right and wrong infirm, and it's awful that I am being politically correct. They're most probably the insecure types who grew up being belittled by mom and dad and the dog that when they grew up they couldn't help but prove themselves by hook or by crook, even at the expense of the more deserving.

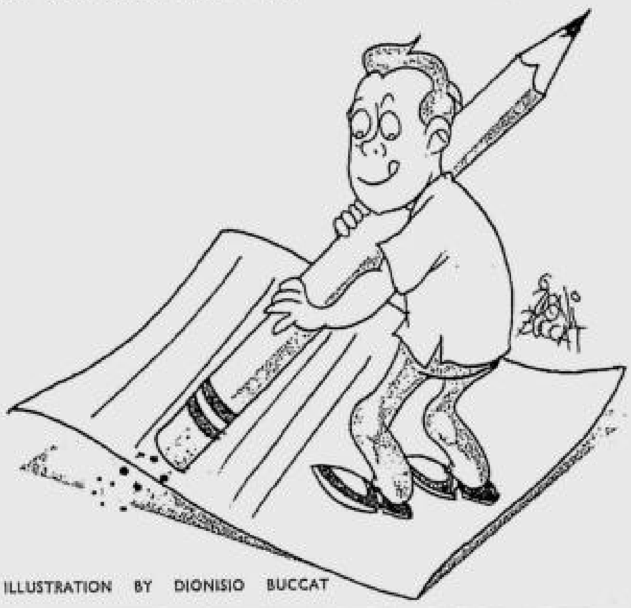

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Dose of own medicine

It is but right to shun them and withdraw from them all manner of affection, even affectation. But wait, perhaps what they deserve are just that—affectations of honor and respect, plus a personal taste of the adage, "It's lonely at the top." Then again, decent people don't make it a practice to give a villain a dose of his or her own medicine, and in the same exact dosage, too.

Nevertheless, idea plagiarists bring out the inner wildebeest in a wronged employee, no matter the glamour of the work location, no matter how high up one is situated in the corporate hierarchy, and notwithstanding all the natty Italian suit and leather, the French perfume and the Wharton MBA. In this kind of world, cutting edge technology takes on another meaning, one synonymous to deadly weaponry. With corporate sharks like this, you cannot help but regard the corporate world sometimes as a culture about as sophisticated as that of a herd of gnus in the African veldt.

If there's one idea I wish idea thieves would steal, it is this: the idea of a conscience that knows what's wrong and what's right.

(Any other musings from the corporate edge? Send your contributions to peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.)

Taiwan is the top overseas labor market for Pinoy caregivers

THE DEPARTMENT of Labor and Employment's Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) recently reported that the top overseas labor markets for Filipino caregivers were Taiwan, Israel, Canada and the United Kingdom. Taiwan, according to the POEA, remained the top overseas market of Filipino caregivers as the country hired/rehired some 13,855 caregivers last year comprising 68.3 percent of total global deployment.

The DOLE also reported an increase in the number of overseas Filipino workers deployed as caregivers overseas in 2004.

A report reaching Labor and Employment Secretary Patricia A. Sto. Tomas indicated that some 20,266 Filipino caregivers were deployed in 24 host countries globally last year, or a growth of 7.35 percent (+1,388) from 18,878 in 2003.

In Israel, caregiver deployment posted an increase of 83.3 percent to 3,184 last year from 1,737 in 2003; in Canada, by 38.5 percent to 2,509 from 1,811; and in the UK, by 35.5 percent to 652 from 481.

Other alternative and/or emerging host destinations last year, which accommodated Filipino caregivers, were the following: Albania, Australia, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bermuda, the Cayman Island, Cyprus, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Mexico, Saipan, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Tajikistan, Tinian, the United Arab Emirates and the United States.

Nonetheless, Sto. Tomas cited an earlier report of the DOLE's Technical Education and Skills Development Authority which cautioned the industry from giving false hopes to would-be overseas Filipino caregivers on nonexistent job openings in still inactive overseas markets notwithstanding the growth in caregiver deployment. *(Source:* www.dole.gov.ph)

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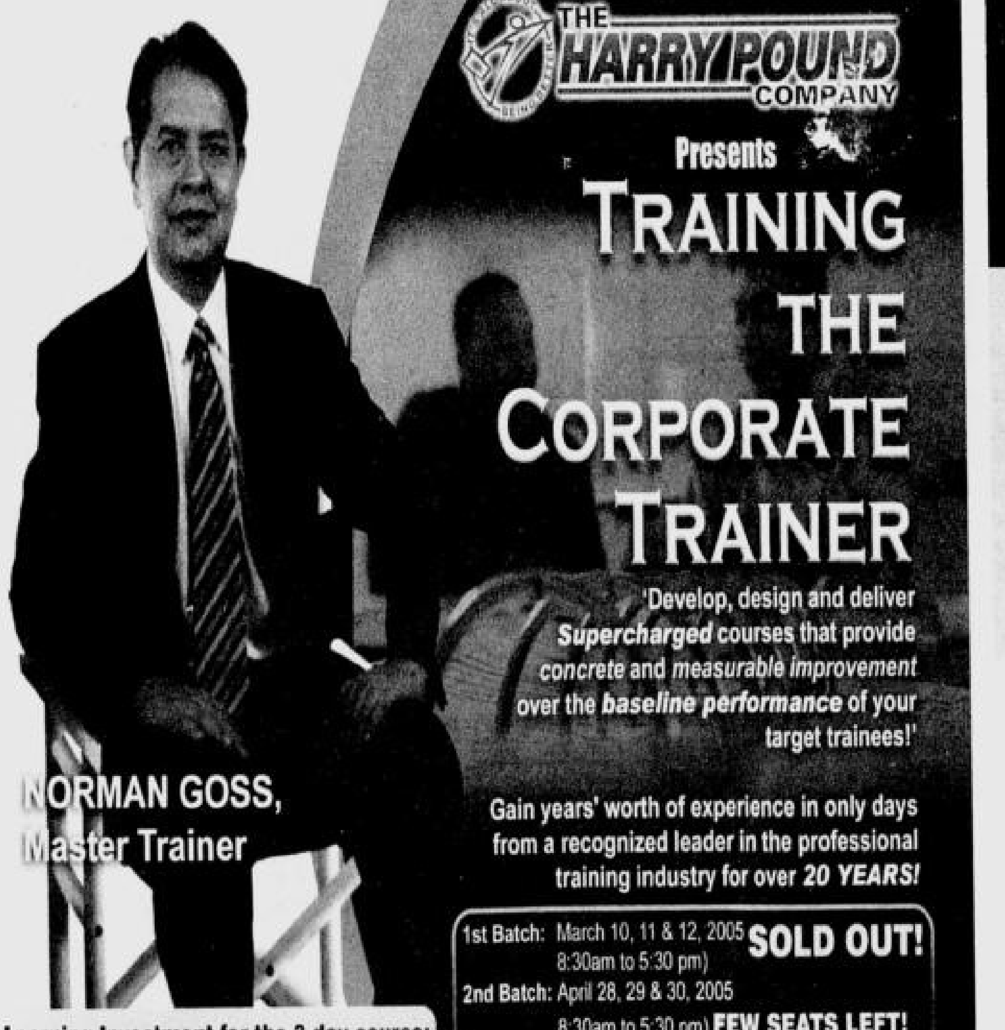

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Time to recharge

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

IT IS NATURAL for us to feel drained, like batteries, at the end of a working day. Thus, we say we need to "recharge." But how can we tell which is the best way to recharge? Popular ways of "recharging" are: (1) being with friends spending the "happy hour" unwinding over a drink and trading jokes; (2) music—soaking ourselves in ego-boosting applause and incredibly high scores at the videoke bars; (3) entertainment—watching movies or television; (4) malling—shopping or window-shopping, playing computer games, etc.; (5) gossiping—snooping on other people's lives and being thankful we're not as stupid as the people we gossip about or the characters in the *telenovelas* we follow; and (6) sex—releasing tension through intimate body contact with another person.

All those ways of recharging, in the long run, do not accomplish much to revive ourselves, considering their side effects despite the money, time and energy we invest in them. Sometimes, they even exhaust us further for the next working day—*"Aminin!"*—especially when we don't know when to stop. Blessed are those who, while refreshing themselves in those ways, still have energy left for the ultimate in recharging: being alone with God.

For recharging that brings out the best in us, we can try inviting God to "Stay with us... (when) the day is practically over"—as the two men did in today's Gospel. Their situation is very much like ours—as we "walk" through our working day we are so taken up by anxieties, always talking and talking, that we fail to see the One Character that counts in our life more than anybody else. But when we invite Him to stay and sit with us to seal off our day, He grants our wish; then our eyes are opened, we get to know Him, and His person grows in us for all the world to see. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com.)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

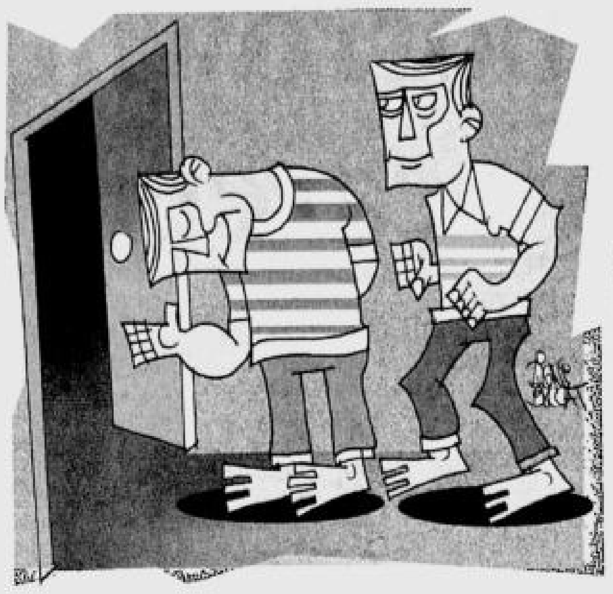
ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

Stay with us, Lord

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

ONE of our characteristic traits as Filipinos is our being hospitable; we make visitors or strangers feel at home staying with us even if we have not enough space or material things to share. But we seem to have hearts big enough to readily welcome everyone. This trait is something envied by many but not by a good majority in the world of business and competitive workplace. In this kind of world, most people value more precise analytical, financial and technical skills—those which can produce the maximum result from time, space, materials, money and personnel—rather than good personal relationships in the workplace.

Yet, these same people in business and in the workplace have started to realize that authentic human satisfaction is not met totally by consuming material products or even by performing excellent skills but by experiencing deep within a feeling of "staying with" another person—loving and being loved by the other. Jesus understands perfectly this human need when He granted the request of the two disciples who after a long day's work and journey urged him to "stay with us."

Like Jesus, we can also adopt the attitude of welcoming everyone or "staying with everyone" in our workplaces. As managers, supervisors or ordinary workers, we can practise Christ-like tolerance towards our coworkers, have a deep and genuine understanding of their mistakes, and help create an atmosphere, which encourages everyone to work peacefully and efficiently, thus making everyone feel that Jesus truly "stays with us" even as we work. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net.)

How do you get on the same page as your boss?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: Recently, I've started working for a boss who makes me very nervous. I tend to be pretty blunt, which my boss alternately tolerates and appreciates it. But now I think I need to pull back and figure out where the line is with my new boss so I don't cross it.

Do The Right Thing

Your e-mail reminded me of Troy Stephani's efforts to elude police so he could finish his crack cocaine. He eluded police just fine by turning into a parking lot. His joy was short-lived however, because it turns out that the parking lot he'd turned into was for the police station. He was promptly arrested.

Mr. Stephani isn't the only person who has made a wrong turn, I've done it at work and chances are that you have too. I've listed below some questions to help you stay on the right path. For more, check out Dotlich and Cairo's book, "Why CEO's Fail" (Jossey-Bass, 2003).

Do you learn all you can about your boss? It's easy to figure out where most bosses are coming from. The trouble is that most of us don't take the time to do it. What are his or her politics, history and pressures?

Do you test limits to push boundaries or do you break rules for the sake of breaking rules? Sometimes, we break rules for the sake of breaking rules. Whenever you're on the verge of breaking a rule, ask yourself, is there another way to accomplish this that doesn't?

Do you enjoy risk-taking or do you take risks without considering the consequences? Risk-taking without considering the consequences is ... well, risky. I'm constantly calculating in my head the risk and return possibilities. I always try to determine the risk and reward to see if the odds are in my favor.

Do you use your charm and creativity to achieve organizational goals or do you rely on charm at the expense of details? I think a bit of charm goes a long way at work. But there is nothing more tiring than charm that is designed to cover up sloppy work or manipulative behavior.

Do you make provocative statements to foster dialogue or to needlessly annoy? I think that most corporations need more provocateurs. The problem is that once you reduce your inhibition enough to speak out, oftentimes it's hard to get back to a place where you pick your battles and provoke strategically. There are times to speak out, but just as importantly, there are times to listen and not just pretend you're listening while you're figuring out what you are going to say next.

Do you use your energy for the good of your organization or for your own personal agenda? There is nothing that gets people in a bureaucracy mad faster than the appearance of someone working for their own gain at the expense of the organization.

Focus on your own behavior vis-à-vis the above questions and you'll consistently make the correct turns at work.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: How would you describe your relationship with your boss?

—On the same page, 32.3 percent

—In the same ballpark, 32.9 percent

—Not on the same planet, 34.7 percent

(*Mr. Rosner, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and speaker, is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at* bob@workingwounded.com.)

CONVERGYS: ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST ADMIRED COMPANIES FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Convergys ranked Number One among peers in Innovation and Social Responsibility

FOR the fifth consecutive year, Convergys (NYSE: CVG) has been rated one of "America's Most Admired" companies in the Diversified Outsourcing industry according to Fortune Magazine.

Moreover, Convergys, a global leader in providing customer care, human resources, and billing services, again rated Number One in two categories: Innovation and Social Responsibility — and Number Two in the Quality of Management.

"On behalf of our more than 66,000 employees in 29 countries around the world, I express our appreciation to Fortune for naming Convergys as one of America's Most Admired Companies for the fifth consecutive year," said Jim Orr, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Convergys. "In particular, I am very proud of our Number One ranking for Innovation and Social Responsibility. These distinctions are especially meaningful to us because we are dedicated to state-of-the-art technology and advanced systems and committed to Convergys' Core Values which include exemplary corporate citizenship."

Fortune asked 10,000 executives, directors, and securities analysts to rate peer companies in their own industry based on eight key categories: reputation: Innovation, financial soundness, employee talent, use of corporate assets, long-term investment value, social responsibility, quality of management and quality of products and services.

The complete list of Most Admired Companies is available on www.fortune.com

In the Philippines, Convergys has grown to more than 4,500 employees in just two years of operation. Convergys currently has five operating centers in Makati, Pasig, Cebu, and Alabang and is poised to open two more centers in Makati and Quezon City. More than 4,000 trainees have passed through its extensive training programs in eighteen classrooms at the Insular Life Building in Makati.

Further attesting to the skills of Filipino professionals, Convergys has brought its first Filipino expatriate to serve the company in Jacksonville, Florida. Former senior manager Malu Ros is now Director for Global Communications and Culture Training.

Marife Zamora Vice President and Country Manager of Convergys Corp.

"Convergys is committed to expansion and growth and wants to translate this to employment opportunities in the country. We are rallying with government institutions and the academe to ensure that we continue to have a steady stream of highly-skilled, quality people," said Marife Zamora, Convergys vice president and country manager.

Convergys' successes have been extended to the community. The company has been supportive of the Sa Aklat Sisikat foundation in the fight against illiteracy.

In cooperation with the Department of Education, Convergys trained 330 public high school teachers in English skills improvement. The outreach program is expected to benefit more teachers this year.

It has also honored educators from 20 of the country's top colleges and universities, as well as 15 government offices, for their assistance in the recruitment and hiring of new trainees for the profession.

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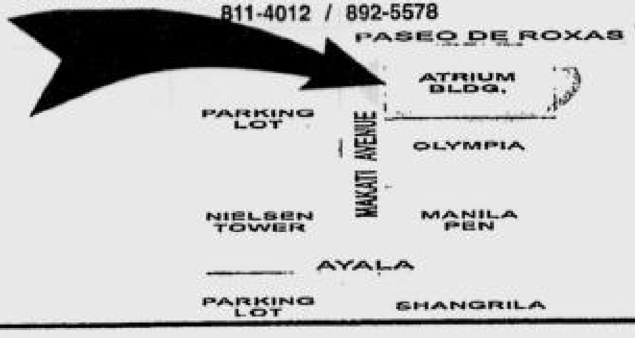

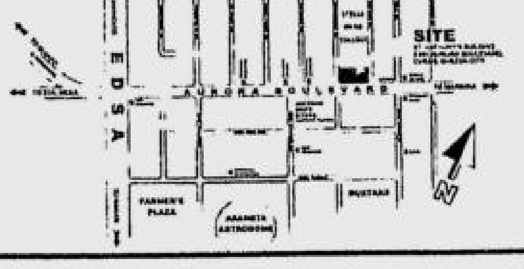

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

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'Compulsive borrowing is affecting my career'

DEBT
BUCCAT

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

By Ernie O. Cecilia, FPM

ASK YOUR
CAREER
COUNSELOR

I HAVE BEEN working as a production operator for five years now in a large multinational company in the Philippines. Of course, being a graduate of an engineering course in a university, I aspire to move to higher positions in order to have bigger pay.

Right now, I am saddled with debts that I pay through credit cards and payroll deduction, and my take home pay is not enough to make both ends meet. My basic pay is decent enough—it's my take home pay that's my problem. I keep on borrowing left and right. I once tried borrowing from my supervisor, but he castigated me and told me that my living in debt is affecting my career. My boss is hesitant to promote me because of my poor image as someone wallowing in debt.

Can you give me some advice so that I can improve my career chances by managing my debt problem?

Compulsive Debtor

Almost everybody must have been in debt once, especially credit card users. In fact, rightly or wrongly, success''is often measured by how much the bank is willing to lend you. Successful businessmen have earned millions by leveraging on others' equity—that is, borrowing. Others have been blown to smithereens because they were not able to manage their debts.

As I often say, you are in good company. Millions of employees complain that their take-home pay can't take them home. Many are practically living a lifestyle of debt. They avail of every conceivable salary deduction scheme that companies or vendors offer the average people at work. Why? They are the best customers—with predictable needs, predictable incomes, and willing to mortgage their future through payroll deduction authorization.

Compulsion

Living in debt is a compulsion—just like substance abuse, overeating, uncontrolled gambling or sexual addiction. The difference is that the rest have been acknowledged as such and given enough attention and cure. Compulsive borrowing is taken for granted.

This compulsion to live in debt usually starts small and goes unnoticed. People tend to buy things they don't need, or they spend beyond their means. The payroll deduction scheme is a bait for salaried workers to get into the habit of spending beyond their means. It gives the wrong impression that the expense is affordable and easy to pay. What usually remains in the pay envelope after a two-page deduction slip are a few pesos and the receipts. Worse, some employees experience a credit balance in their pay slips. But truth to tell, the average worker is wowed by the idea of the easy-to-pay scheme called payroll deduction.

Vicious cycle

Like any compulsive behavior, compulsive borrowing follows this predictable course:

1. Trigger. There is always a triggering feeling that starts off this compulsive behavior. It can be a feeling of need, rage, emptiness, depression, loneliness or envy, the latter being the more insidious one. These feelings may result from an incident at work, at home or at play or can be due to an accumulation of small frustrations over time. Consciously or unconsciously, we feel the urge to spend, to splurge or to pamper ourselves or others by spending—or overspending.

2. Reckless spending. When the triggering feeling occurs, we usually want to shift our focus away from what happens inside us. When some women feel depressed, they tend to overeat, or overreact, or overspend. Even the knowledge that we're doing something we always prohibited ourselves from doing gives a sense of high.

3. Realization and reproach. When the adrenalin returns to the same low level, we realize that we over spent or bought something we don't need, or committed our future pay to something we can't really afford. This often results in self-reproach among compulsive debtors and moves them to correct their moral deficiency.

4. Futility. At this stage, the compulsive debtor shows good intentions, but efforts can prove futile. We try to cut our compulsive behavior but are faced with debts we can't pay with our own present capacity. This could lead us to borrow more in order to pay our debts, or to supplement the miniscule take-home pay. Many are dragged into the quagmire of spiraling debts in an effort to extricate themselves from the compulsive indebtedness.

Symptoms of the syndrome

Here are some symptoms to watch out for—writing checks that you know will bounce, ignoring or throwing away unpaid bills, buying expensive gifts even if you can't afford them, lying to your partner about paying bills, going on spending sprees when depressed, lonely or angry, and borrowing money you know you can't possibly pay back.

For people at work, these symptoms tend to reveal a greater problem. Mismanagement of one's personal finances can wreak havoc on one's career. It is obvious that the boss will never entrust someone with greater responsibilities if the latter cannot be trusted to straighten his own finances.

Ten solutions

The moment you realize that you have acquired the compulsive behavior of living in debt, take the following easy steps to put debt to death:

1.Realize that you need to correct yourself. Admit your mistake and resolve to take positive steps to get out of the rut.

2.Don't blame others. Forget that your wife or friend bulldozed the idea of getting a debt into your head. It's done—you are now in debt. Don't create another relational problem to add to your financial problem.

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Postcards from the corporate edge p. 8★★

LEARN FROM ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING SALES TRAINERS IN MANILA IN MAY!

MICHAEL G. MALAGHAN

HOW TO MAKE MORE MILLIONS IN SALES!
Seminar Series

May 4, 2005 (Wednesday), 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
New World Renaissance Hotel, Esperanza Drive corner Makati Ave., Makati City

Presented by:
OPTIMUS INNOVATIONS, INC.
eccp
TRAINING WORKS

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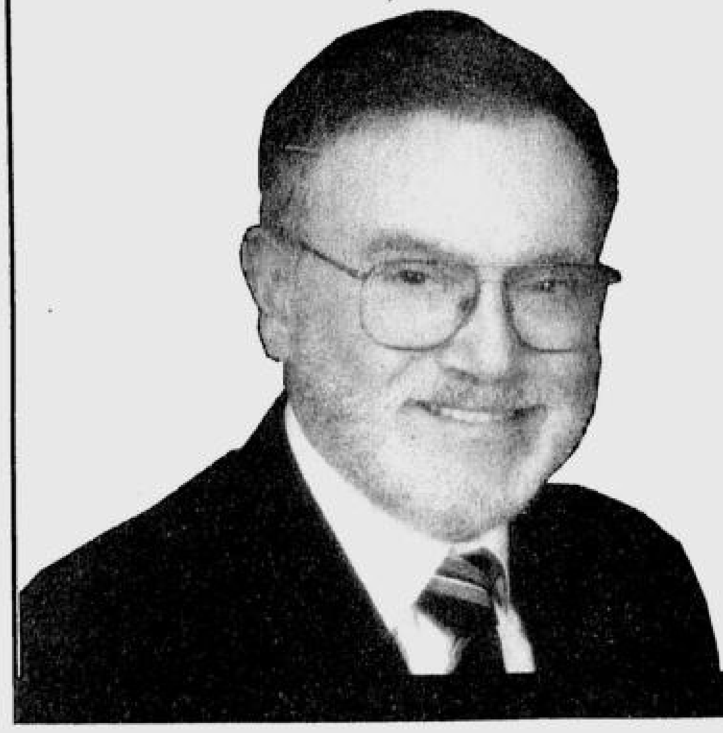

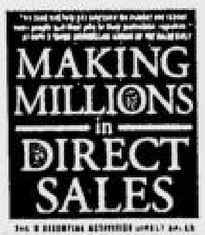
MAKING MILLIONS in DIRECT SALES
MICHAEL E. MALAGHAN

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK
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Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

'Compulsive borrowing is affecting my career'

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

By Ernie O. Cecilia, FPM

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

I HAVE BEEN working as a production operator for five years now in a large multinational company in the Philippines. Of course, being a graduate of an engineering course in a university, I aspire to move to higher positions in order to have bigger pay.

Right now, I am saddled with debts that I pay through credit cards and payroll deduction, and my take home pay is not enough to make both ends meet. My basic pay is decent enough—it's my take home pay that's my problem. I keep on borrowing left and right. I once tried borrowing from my supervisor, but he castigated me and told me that my living in debt is affecting my career. My boss is hesitant to promote me because of my poor image as someone wallowing in debt.

Can you give me some advice so that I can improve my career chances by managing my debt problem?

Compulsive Debtor

Almost everybody must have been in debt once, especially credit card users. In fact, rightly or wrongly, success is often measured by how much the bank is willing to lend you. Successful businessmen have earned millions by leveraging on others' equity—that is, borrowing. Others have been blown to smithereens because they were not able to manage their debts.

As I often say, you are in good company. Millions of employees complain that their take-home pay can't take them home. Many are practically living a lifestyle of debt. They avail of every conceivable salary deduction scheme that companies or vendors offer the average people at work. Why? They are the best customers—with predictable needs, predictable incomes, and willing to mortgage their future through payroll deduction authorization.

Compulsion

Living in debt is a compulsion—just like substance abuse, overeating, uncontrolled gambling or sexual addiction. The difference is that the rest have been acknowledged as such and given enough attention and cure. Compulsive borrowing is taken for granted.

This compulsion to live in debt usually starts small and goes unnoticed. People tend to buy things they don't need, or they spend beyond their means. The payroll deduction scheme is a bait for salaried workers to get into the habit of spending beyond their means. It gives the wrong impression that the expense is affordable and easy to pay. What usually remains in the pay envelope after a two-page deduction slip are a few pesos and the receipts. Worse, some employees experience a credit balance in their pay slips. But truth to tell, the average worker is wowed by the idea of the easy-to-pay scheme called payroll deduction.

Vicious cycle

Like any compulsive behavior, compulsive borrowing follows this predictable course:

1. Trigger. There is always a triggering feeling that starts off this compulsive behavior. It can be a feeling of need, rage, emptiness, depression, loneliness or envy, the latter being the more insidious one. These feelings may result from an incident at work, at home or at play or can be due to an accumulation of small frustrations over time. Consciously or unconsciously, we feel the urge to spend, to splurge or to pamper ourselves or others by spending—or overspending.

2. Reckless spending. When the triggering feeling occurs, we usually want to shift our focus away from what happens inside us. When some women feel depressed, they tend to overeat, or overreact, or overspend. Even the knowledge that we're doing something we always prohibited ourselves from doing gives a sense of high.

3. Realization and reproach. When the adrenalin returns to the same low level, we realize that we over spent or bought something we don't need, or committed our future pay to something we can't really afford. This often results in self-reproach among compulsive debtors and moves them to correct their moral deficiency.

4. Futility. At this stage, the compulsive debtor shows good intentions, but efforts can prove futile. We try to cut our compulsive behavior but are faced with debts we can't pay with our own present capacity. This could lead us to borrow more in order to pay our debts, or to supplement the miniscule take-home pay. Many are dragged into the quagmire of spiraling debts in an effort to extricate themselves from the compulsive indebtedness.

Symptoms of the syndrome

Here are some symptoms to watch out for—writing checks that you know will bounce, ignoring or throwing away unpaid bills, buying expensive gifts even if you can't afford them, lying to your partner about paying bills, going on spending sprees when depressed, lonely or angry, and borrowing money you know you can't possibly pay back.

For people at work, these symptoms tend to reveal a greater problem. Mismanagement of one's personal finances can wreak havoc on one's career. It is obvious that the boss will never entrust someone with greater responsibilities if the latter cannot be trusted to straighten his own finances.

Ten solutions

The moment you realize that you have acquired the compulsive behavior of living in debt, take the following easy steps to put debt to death:

1.Realize that you need to correct yourself. Admit your mistake and resolve to take positive steps to get out of the rut.

2.Don't blame others. Forget that your wife or friend bulldozed the idea of getting a debt into your head. It's done—you are now in debt. Don't create another relational problem to add to your financial problem.

3.Cut your credit cards—I mean, literally. Get a pair of sharp scissors and cut your credit cards so you won't have to use them ever again. That should lessen your compulsion to mortgage your future. Talk to your HR manager and tell him to help you by not extending any more additional payroll deduction privileges to you.

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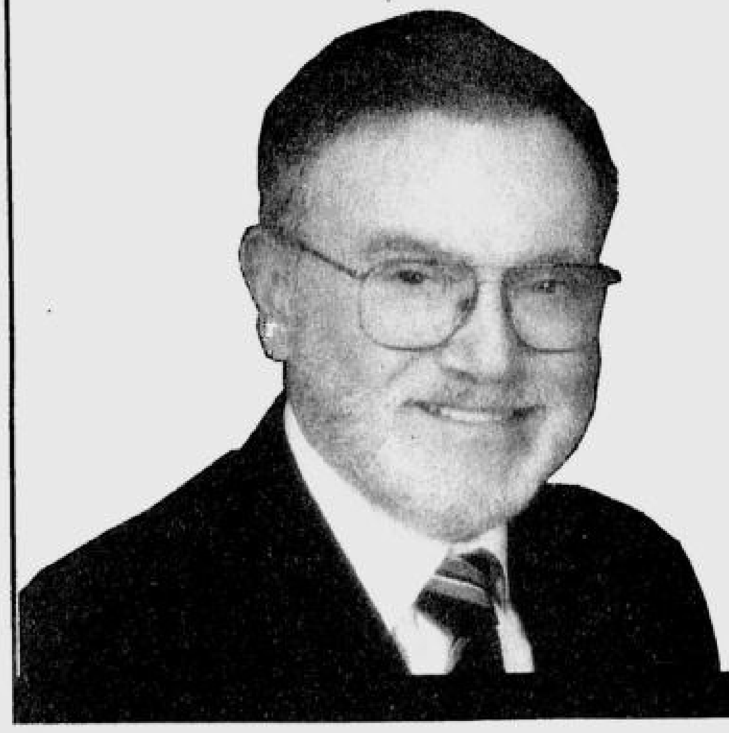

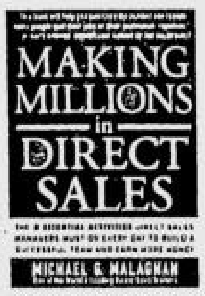
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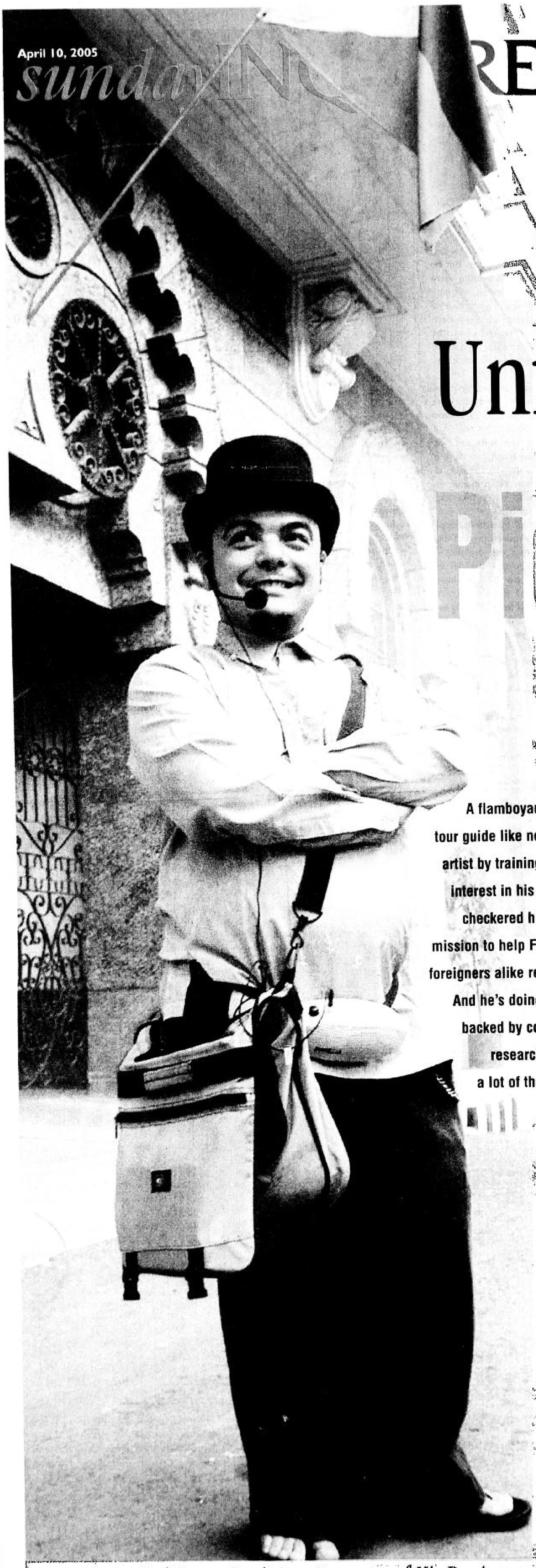
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE



Carlos Celdran

Take An Unforgettable Tour With the Pied Piper of Manila

by Ross Harper-Alonso
photographs by Romy Homillada

A flamboyant historical tour guide like no other, this artist by training turned his interest in his home city's checkered history into a mission to help Filipinos and foreigners alike rediscover it. And he's doing it his way, backed by conscientious research—and with a lot of theatrical flair

CARLOS Celdran is the new Pied Piper of Manila. On most days you'll find him dressed in his "tour demon costume," in a *barong Tagalog*, *tsinelas*, and a *salakot* or top hat on his head, regaling mesmerized guests with historical trivia imparted with tons of humor and a style that has made him almost famous.

The youngest of four equally artistic and enterprising siblings, this Spanish mestizo from a respected family is an interesting blend of two worlds. Dad Mike is a successful and well-loved pediatrician, while Mom Backie hails from the prominent Pamintuan clan of Pampanga, sister of Patis Tesoro and beading entrepreneur Peanuts Pamintuan.

"We're all rather diverse, completely involved in different fields. There's no competition within the family, only total support for each other," Carlos says with a hint of pride before he leads a group of 35 guests through the narrow streets of Intramuros. He struts around with an unbranded bag slung over his shoulders to carry his "props"—a low-tech cassette recorder, an ordinary plastic organizer with pages filled with reproduced pre-and post-World War II pictures, and miniature versions of the Filipino and American flag. And it works! It's all part of the revolutionary tour of Intramuros that Celdran started, and that many are queueing for.

"Oddly enough, despite being a historical tour guide, my college degree was not in History," Carlos explains. "I have a background in Fine Arts from UP Diliman, but I graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design."

Fortunately, the school's art department encouraged multidisciplinary learning, which allowed Carlos to explore other subjects he was interested in.

"I think the art appreciation classes I enrolled in were particularly helpful because they literally taught me how to 'see.' Since my tours are all about creating a cohesive understanding of Manila's culture, it's important to be able to analyze properly what one is looking at, and place it within a historical context."

Carlos views Manila as a work of art, like a painting that must be deciphered. He believes there is no such thing as good art or bad art, just different kinds of art, and all he's been exposed to has helped him deliver a more balanced interpretation of Philippine history through an analysis of what Filipinos have become today. With his thorough understanding of culture, a healthy dose of theatrics to communicate effectively, and a refreshing splash of creativity, Carlos has produced a unique tour that is both informative and entertaining.

To page 2

From Prodigal Son to Prodigious Promoter of His Province, *p.4* • Yes, They Know Their Way to San Pablo, *p.5*

Love Notes

Joe D'Mango

Between Responsibility and Love

I was surprised when he told me the name of his daughter—it was my name. I was really touched and ended up crying. All these years, Joe, I thought I had moved on, but I was wrong

Dear Joe,

It's been seven years since I met Marco, the man of my dreams. I was a high school senior and in college already. He respected me, loved me, and took care of me. I thought things would be perfect for us, until one day Marco told me to forget him. I was shocked. Had I become a bad girlfriend? Then he confessed that his ex-girlfriend Marla was two months pregnant.

Joe, I never expected how much it would hurt. He married Marla and became a responsible father. Meanwhile, I graduated, moved on and went to the US.

Now it's been five years, and I'm back in my hometown. I looked for a job and met people. I actually met Marco once on the busy streets of Makati. We were both speechles. We had coffee, and I was excited to be with him again. Then I saw the wedding ring on his finger. It reminded me that he was already married. All he said was sorry. I looked straight into his eyes, and I wanted to scream and tell him how much he had hurt me. But his eyes melted my heart as and I felt instead like I wanted to kiss and hug him.

I asked him how he was. He told me he was fine, that he had one kid and didn't plan to have another. I was surprised when he told me the name of his daughter—it was my name. I was really touched and ended up crying. All these years, Joe, I thought I had moved on, but I was wrong.

He told me he loved me still. I never dreamed I would consider being a mistress. I could take him away from his wife but I couldn't take him away from his daughter. Now I'm so confused. I know which is the right thing to do, but I'm having a hard time ignoring him. I love him, Joe. I really do.

Sincerely yours,
Kathy

Dear Kathy,

There comes a time when the only way to love a person is not to love him at all. Marco sacrificed his own happiness for a responsibility he owed his ex-girlfriend and her child. His commitment to his responsibility outweighed his commitment to your relationship. But, as many would say, true love will always have a way of working its way back, no matter how long it has gone or how far it has been.

Marco said he still loves you. It is easy to blame him for leaving you. But he had his reasons and his reasons were noble. He had to sacrifice his own happiness for a child who is going to bear his name. That meant making a decision, and when he walked down the aisle with the mother of his child it also meant that he would not look back anymore.

When your paths crossed again, he saw what he missed. But marriage doesn't have any room for a second love. You have a place in his heart but not in his life now. That is the sad fact. And no matter how much love there is left in your heart, you will still have to be bound by reason and principle. As you said, you could never take him away from his daughter.

Kathy, not all fairy tales have happy endings. You have moved on and this brief interlude with a lost love should not keep you from going. Marco has his own life and family now. You could have a home in his heart forever but you should keep yourself from breaking into his real home. He belongs to someone else now, and you should, too.

Remember that no matter how long we have waited and failed, there will always be someone out there who will love us the way we want to be loved. There is always someone out there whom we can walk with and share our joys with. There is someone meant for us. All we have to do is believe that there is and give ourselves the chance to find it. Q

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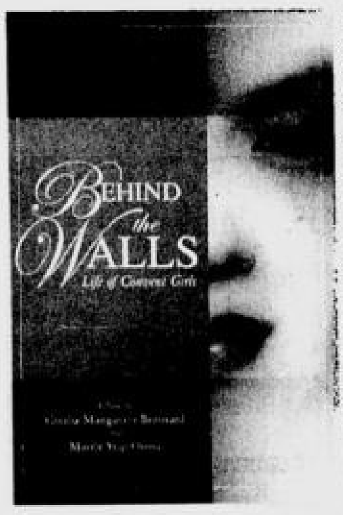


OFF THE PRESS In celebration of Women's Month, Anvil Publishing Inc. released "Behind the Walls," edited by Cecilia Manguerra Brainard and Marily Ysip Orosa. The book is a collection of 30 essays by graduates of convent schools from Manila and Quezon City and some from Cebu, Batangas and Calapan who are now renowned head honchos in corporations, hotshot lawyers, deans and publishers. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Turtle Song, Fish Tales

And here I am
at the ocean floor
staring up at the diluted sun
—tremulous egg yolk
in a cool blue soup.
Meanwhile, the hundred foot tall
sea wall, dwarfs me—
Archetype of the highrise building
brimming, teeming, bursting
with life of both plant and animal kind.
I'm wondering what tales are shared
among the schools of fish
and whether the clams mind the corals.
(Are there rival schools and clam wars perhaps?)
Presently, a giant sea turtle
zooms past me, and
I'm thinking: "Where's he rushing to?
Isn't he supposed to be slower than a hare?"
The turtle smiles at me with is beady eyes and stately shell:
"Oh my boy, this is the closest thing to flying."

Michael Marcel Santos

Carlos

...from page 1

They're listening: Carlos uses some simple visual aids to liven up the tour

"I get a mixed group. Foreigners give Manila more of a chance, while many Filipinos will not venture beyond Makati or the malls for entertainment. Fortunately, at the end of the tour they are extremely surprised to discover so much about Manila's history and learn everything, from the pleasant to the sad and ugly," Carlos points out.

Impossible to hide

It's not just about entertainment, however, but also about appreciating things before they are lost forever. "My Binondo tour is relatively new, but already six old buildings have been torn down, and they continue to disappear by the week," Carlos explains. "My guests see the poverty that's impossible to hide. This is why the tour can't be just about tourism. There has to be a social development angle somewhere, since I stare poverty in the face almost daily."

With this in mind, Carlos has not only made an impression on paying participants, but among the local residents and simple folk of Manila. Stand-bys walk a bit with the group to listen, and leave with enlightened smiles, while others make comments and even correct Carlos in a positive way. They're learning a thing or two from him, no doubt, whether it's making use of the condoms Carlos distributes for free, or understanding why people are trooping to see the crowded old streets they live on, or *karitela* drivers learning to value their customers.

Although Carlos' tongue-in-cheek comments, public secrets and insightful narrations flow naturally with remarks that sound impromptu most of the time, this entire "act" took quite a few years to develop.

After he graduated, Carlos volunteered for a non-profit organization called the Heritage Conservation Society. "I got involved in several of their heritage conservation endeavors, such as the protests against the destruction of the Jai-Alai Building on Taft Avenue. One thing led to another and by 2001, I was working with them full-time as one of their directors. It was then that I started doing guided tours of Manila's historic sections as a part of their outreach education programs," Carlos recalls.

That was back in 2001, and Carlos admits that the tours he gave were different. "They were more staid and based on memorized facts—totally cold and almost boring. It was only after I quit my post in 2003 that I decided to do tour-guiding full time, but this time with my own touch. So I then incorporated my love for theater and the arts into the tour." Not long after, Carlos started his own e-mail group and started offering historical tours, with the guide dressed in full costume with props, comedy, music and visual aids. "The rest, I guess, is history."

Carlos has never claimed to be an expert on Philippine culture and history. "I was corrected countless times in the first years, so I believe I'm up to around 95 percent accuracy rate. But I still hand out a disclaimer before the tour that states the content of my spiels are for recreational purposes only," he clarifies.

Doing his homework

This doesn't mean he hasn't done his homework, however. Despite an Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Carlos is a visual person, and he has pored over tons of Philippine history books and made notes based on people's real-life experiences.

"Learning Philippine History is something I consciously had to do very late. I was lucky to have sources of information. Even the old-timers I interviewed were very cooperative and gave me personal accounts of what life was like in Manila long before I was born."

Sadly, Carlos also learned that many history books were actually quite inaccurate. "But my objective here is to get people interested to learn about Philippine history on their own. I'm not here to spoon-feed them."

Carlos has been holding tours for close to four years now, and he has learned that although visual aids help, humor "is the best way to get my message across. It lightens up an otherwise tragic topic like World War II and it holds the attention of people, even the ones who start out noisy and pesky but end the tour contented. People show up rain or shine, and so far no one has refused to pay or asked for a refund," Carlos says mischievously. June and July are lean months, so there are no tours offered.

Favorite spot

Since Carlos writes his own scripts, he studies the topics thoroughly and goes to great lengths to get personal interviews. "I follow three basic rules when I write," Carlos says with a grin. "Double-check my facts, double-check my facts, and double-check my facts. And if I can't answer a question right there and then, I'll promise to e-mail them the information one day. I'd like to be as accurate as I can, since I'm telling our story."

Married for five years now to Tesa Jose, one wonders how his wife feels about his work schedule, since his tours are held on weekends.

"My wife is a Special Needs teacher at Brent Middle School, and because I have ADHD, she understands she married a student who can't sit still at all," Carlos says with a chuckle. "I'm also a cultural consultant for Mayor Lito Atienza and a painter by profession, so I still have a lot to do when I'm not walking around all day."

No surprise then that he likes to say his favorite spot in Metro Manila is his side of the bed. "I enjoy doing the tours, but my kind of touring is very tiring simply because it's very theatrical. A lot of work goes into communicating and projecting, it's almost like playing the lead in a street musical twice a day," he says with a laugh.

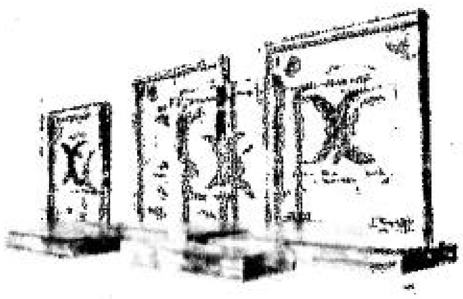
But seriously, Carlos says, his favorite public space in Manila is "all of Quiapo, because it shows you what Manila truly is—dirty, noisy, colorful and full of soul! It's about us, and this is something we should all make an effort to learn about and encourage students to get into. Then we can understand ourselves more, as well as the context in which we were created. Our identity did not grow in a vacuum; it was formed by the relationships we had with the people who surrounded us and the places we inhabited. History helps create a foundation for that identity."

In the end, it's all about love and giving this blighted but beautiful city of ours a chance, Carlos says. "History helps clarify the chaos that is our capital city. Because if you cannot change the way Manila looks, history will help you change the way you look at Manila." Q

For tour schedules, call Carlos Celdran at 0926-2597506 or visit www.celdrantours.blogspot.com. Rates: P400/adults, P100/students. Government employees and public school students are free of charge.

Green Meets Blue Anew

SMART Presents the 17th La Salle-Ateneo Golf Classic



Blue and green don't mix... but apparently they do on the golf course. For the 17th time, collegiate archrivals Ateneo de Manila and De La Salle met on the golf course for a friendly encounter for the La Salle-Ateneo Golf Classic. Held at the beautiful Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Carmona, Cavite, alumni and students from both schools matched up, competing for pride on the links.

Presented by SMART and PLDT, and supported by Nokia, the La Salle-Ateneo Golf Classic has become a tradition that alumni from both institutions have looked forward to, as much as their annual UAAP basketball games. Despite the competitive nature of the tournament, the participants were all smiles at the awarding ceremonies that followed. Amid cheers of "Blue Eagle Spelling!" and "Animo La Salle!", hosts Andy Dumlao and Henry Atayde exchanged barbs and side-comments as Blue Eagles and Green Archers are wont to do. It was all in the spirit of fun, camaraderie, and love of golf. The prize? The coveted "Classic Cup" which stays with the winning school for the remainder of the year. Winning the trophy three straight years means the victorious school gets permanent ownership of the cup.

Whether you were in blue or green, from Katipunan or Taft, on this day, you were guaranteed to have a good laugh and a pleasant time reconnecting with old classmates while making new friends from the other side of town. This year, the Lasallians had something to crow about as they trounced their blue counterparts for an overall score 0f 63-36. Bobby Celestino, Rafael Garcia, and Jan Michael Yee each scored a 79 on the Dye Course to earn 20 out of a possible 22 points allotted in their division. In Class B, La Salle posted a clean sweep, led by Emmanuel Inumerable's net score of 71. As a result of this rousing success, the Classic Cup goes to Taft Avenue until next year's tournament.

Ateneo managed to eke out wins in Class A thanks to Moshe Baldo's 1st place win, while Manfred Guanko and Gabriel Atienza took 3rd and 4th. Vicente Jose Laza won Class C, Ramon Garcia took the title in Class D, while Katrina Gonzalez won the ladies division for the Eagles. "Archer Pride" was kept thanks to Eddie Jacinto's win in the seniors division and Miguel Garcia's triumph in the open division. The fellowship division was won by the tandem of Jacinto and Gil Yuzon.

Through the many battles Ateneo and La Salle have waged through the years, both schools have earned a tremendous amount of respect for the other. Ever yearning to excel in their fields, it's always a pleasant sight to see their school spirit and their love for sport shine through in anything the Blue Eagles and Green Archers do. SMART, PLDT, and Nokia applaud not just the winners of the La Salle-Ateneo Golf Classic, but all the sportsloving Ateneans and Lasallians who worked hard to make this tournament a success.

SMART

Simply Amazing!

THE CLASSIC CUP
PLDT
SMART

Eddie Jacinto (center) receives his award as Champion for the Seniors Division from Lito Tanjuatco

THE CLASSIC CUP
La Salle-Ateneo Golf Classic
PLDT
SMART

The Tournament Committee: Henry Atayde, Jay Gervasio, Iggy Clavecilla, Lito Tanjuatco, Hedy See and Jun Dulandan

Katrina Gonzales, Ladies Division Champion (Ateneo)

Br. Rafael Donato, FSC (La Salle) taking the 2nd Runner-up trophy for Class D

At the registration table before the tournament starts

Anna Yupangco, Ladies Division 3rd Runner-up (La Salle)

The Artist Abroad

Luis H. Francia

Curb the Dogs of War

To target a human-rights lawyer or, for that matter, a labor organizer, journalist, or political-opposition activist is as unconscionable and illegal as it is brazen and outrageous

NEW YORK—Boyish-looking 40-year-old Eduardo Capulong, a friend and a lawyer teaching at New York University's law school, worries about the safety of his prominent human-rights-lawyer father, Romy: "It's the most dangerous it's ever been. It's surreal; you don't want to believe it's happening."

He's referring to the night of March 7, when unidentified gunmen attempted to assassinate his dad at his farm in Nueva Ecija, but withdrew when they saw his security. Romy, an *ad litem* judge for the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, is no stranger to death threats, having long been resented by hardcore right-wingers in and out of the military for his role in representing such groups as the National Democratic Front in its negotiations with the government and the striking workers at the Hacienda Luisita, the 6,443-hectare sugar estate owned by the family of former president Corazon Cojuangco Aquino. Tension over the strike erupted in deadly violence last November 16, when police fired at the picket lines, killing an estimated 12 people, including two children asphyxiated by tear gas, and wounding scores. I couldn't help but wonder if the hacienda's racehorses got a whiff of the gas in their air-conditioned stables.

I remember covering Romy's congressional run in Nueva Ecija during the 1992 presidential campaign to choose Cory Aquino's successor. In the face of death threats Romy remained calm and collected. (I, on the other hand, felt jittery traveling with him even though he had bodyguards, the prospect of a roadside ambush never far from my thoughts.) I had chosen to cover his campaign mainly because I knew the soft-spoken, bespectacled human-rights lawyer from the early 1980s, when he lived in New York, an exile from the totalitarianism the US-backed Marcos had foisted on the country on the pretext of creating a "New Society." Romy was one of the few exiles who disdained grandstanding and petty politicking; he helped to found the now-defunct Philippine Center for Immigrant Rights, or PHILCIR, a not-for-profit that provided hard-up Pinoys with legal assistance in dealing with immigration hassles. Eduardo worked there, too, along with the father.

To target a human-rights lawyer or, for that matter, a labor organizer, journalist, or political-opposition activist, is as unconscionable and illegal as it is brazen and outrageous—terms that describe as well the deteriorating, and depressing, human rights situation in the country. There is in effect an undeclared war on the aboveground left. Extrajudicial killings or salvagings continue to afflict civil society, their dramatic increase since 2001 indicating a concerted effort to intimidate and stifle the voices of opposition, including those in the media who pose questions about the system of governance. As has been documented and commented on, the Philippines ranks as the second most dangerous country in the world for journalists, right behind Iraq, more dangerous even than Colombia or Russia. The latest victim was Marlene Esperat, a whistleblower living in Tacurong, Sultan Ku-

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PDI PHOTO

Workers confront the police at Hacienda Luisita

Twists of Fate

by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
photographs by Raymond Buslon

From Prodigal Son to Prodigious Promoter of His Province

He had once dismissed his hometown in Bohol as a sleepy backwater, but a homecoming for his mother convinced award-winning musical scorer and tourism officer Lutgardo 'Gardy' Labad that this was where he belonged

AS A little boy growing up in Malate, Lutgardo "Gardy" Labad rarely visited his parents' hometown in Bohol. Except for *broas* (ladyfinger cookies) and *haleyang ube* (sweetened purple yam), this province in Central Visayas held no charms for him. "It was backward, steeped in too much religion, and looked rather spooky with all those musty ancestral homes," he remembers thinking.

Today, Gardy is Bohol's official cheerleader, shepherding its world-famous Loboc Children's Choir, describing the ancient churches of Baclayon over CCI-Asia's Lakbay TV, and shielding its ancestral homes from the threat of a road-widening project. It was largely through the efforts of this prodigal son that Bohol got its Galing Pook Awards for best local government unit in culture in 2000.

Call it filial piety—Gardy staying to take care of his ailing mother—or rare patriotism—heeding the call of his hometown for help. His mother, Juanita Luza Labad, 77, would rather describe it as serendipity, a series of fortunate events conspiring to keep her eldest son home. Gardy himself has learned to call it fate when he looked back and saw how all roads, even a detour to the US, seemed to carry him back to the island he barely knew.

And it all started that summer of '68, when his world moved from the confines of the seminary where he was showing off his musical genes at the piano, to the bigger outdoor stage of the Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA).

"I had wanted to leave the Our Lady of Guadalupe Minor Seminary by then," recalls Gardy, who confessed to entering the religious life because it was exempt from military training and because he was fascinated by its rituals. By chance, he read PETA's announcement of its summer acting workshop. One look at the courses, and the dusky high-schooler was hooked. "That was the first time I met Lino Brocka, who was then just a runner and publicist for PETA founder Cecile Guidote Alvarez," he gushes.

Guidote-Alvarez, adds Gardy, saw his talent in music and made him resident composer and music scorer of the theater group. "She released my creativity, and I realized this is what I want to do all my life. I was 17 then, and I felt so affirmed!"

Indeed, there's no denying the musical tradition that eventually led Gardy to win awards for best movie scoring in such movies as Lino Brocka's "*Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang*," Eddie Romero's "Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon?," Elwood Perez's "*Bilangin Mo ang Bituin sa Langit*," and more recently, "Magnifico" and "*Naglalayag*."

His grandfather played the violin and was a band master in Oroquieta, Misamis Occidental; his *lola* was a good singer, and his mother would accompany herself on the piano while singing kundimans.

Sealed decision

He was in a cassock when he met National Artist Nick Joaquin, actresses Rita Gomez and Celia Rodriguez, and Fr. James Reuter during the premiere of Joaquin's "*Larawan*," recounts Gardy, who was asked to compose the music for the play. The meeting sealed his decision, he adds. Telling his superiors about it proved easier than he expected. "They were more disappointed about losing me as the church organist than anything else," Gardy says with a laugh.

The UP Mass Communications graduate went on to become executive director of PETA while supporting his family with movie scoring and occasionally traveling to Europe on theater grants.

In 1992, his life took a drastic turn. "My mother was hit by a six-wheeler truck on the South Super Highway and became paralyzed. By then I was doing everything for the money because my father had died and I was the eldest. But I'd had enough of commercials and bad movies."

His pastor-brother's invitation for him to bring his mother to the US for medical help was a godsend, he remembers. "I lived in the US from 1993 to 1995 in search of the proverbial greener pastures." He became a concert promoter, a cable TV producer, managed a choral group, and even taught piano for $2 an hour to get by in Florida. He was about to get his big break directing an opera in Miami when his US visa expired. He had to go home.

That was in November 1995, the 400th anniversary of Bohol's Baclayon Church, and his mother had pleaded to be taken to her hometown to see it "one last time" before she settled down in the US. The devoted son acquiesced. "Most of my brothers had their own families by then and it was left to me to take care of Mama," he says. Still, he did not relish the thought of taking a four-hour boat ride from cosmopolitan Cebu to the backwaters of Bohol. Even the news that Bohol's Loboc Children's Choir had won the National Music Competition for Young Artists (NAMCYA) failed to impress him. "What good can come out of Bohol?" he asked skeptically when a friend gave him the news. "Just wait till you get there and see for yourself," the friend answered.

Fiesta time

Gardy got home in time for the town fiesta on December 8, to the sounds and smells of a pig being butchered. "Boholanos love pork and each household traditionally had an entire pig to consume for the fiesta. Mama even hired a chef to do the cooking," he says, shaking his head. It was not the thought of all that food going to waste that bothered him, but the family's medical history: Three of his five brothers had died in their thirties of hypertension and angina and the high-cholesterol diet that his townmates favor did not help any.

Mother and son attended High Mass that day but found that they had to wait out the rain afterwards. "Mama was in a wheelchair and there was no way we could brave the downpour," says Gardy. He was so tired from the trip he promptly fell asleep on the pew, he recalls. "Then I thought I was dreaming," he adds, gesturing dramatically. "Suddenly, there were these tiny feet before me. I opened my eyes with an effort and I saw children—kids all wearing the same white outfit. The Loboc Children's Choir!"

Loboc was four towns away and the choir was on their way home when heavy rain fell. They decided to seek shelter in the church.

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Gardy developing the repertoire for the Loboc choir, and helping out with their choreography, music arrangement, and the children's performance skills. "At the same time," he adds, "I couldn't promote the choir without promoting Bohol." That meant studying the province's history and everything else that people asked about the place.

Best points

"Culture, ecology and human resources are the best points of Bohol," he says. The tremendous support of Fr. Ted Torralba, he adds, "has helped the people maintain their cultural heritage while preserving nature."

With help from then Bohol Governor Rene Relampagos and then Vice Gov. Edgar Chatto (who turned out to be Gardy's student in an acting workshop when the public official was in his teens), and his contacts from PETA, the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), the Loboc Children's Choir was well on its way to establishing its reputation in the international music circuit. His efforts to put Bohol on the map of Philippine tourism did not go unnoticed, and Gardy was soon offered the post of Executive Assistant for Culture by the local government. It was something he'd like to do, but the pay could hardly cover his expenses and his mother's medical bills. He prayed for discernment. It was his mother who found the words: "Isn't it clear by now? God wants you here!"

It was an argument so convincing that today, Gardy remains grafted to Bohol like its mascot, the tarsier, to a tree, promoting culture and the arts in this seemingly sleepy backwaters. Already, he has directed and produced, with the local government, a musical based on the Dagohoy revolt—the longest revolt against the Spaniards led by Francisco Dagohoy—and organized summer workshops and a teen theater. He also helped found the Bohol Arts and Cultural Heritage (BACH), a tri-sectoral arts and culture organization composed of artists, cultural and heritage workers, and representatives of business and government in Bohol.

As BACH's executive secretary since its establishment in 2001, Gardy has led the Council in several programs meant to protect and promote Bohol's cultural heritage, with help from Bishop Tumulak and Gov. Erico Aumentado.

"There's still so much to do," says this full-time manager of the Loboc Children's Choir and executive director of Tuburan, the heritage center for living traditions set up with support from the Metropolitan Museum. For Gardy, the filial son, Bohol has become a second mother. He will always be there for her. Q

Gardy and his beloved mother Juanita

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by An Mercado-Alcantara

Yes, They Know the Way to San Pablo

A group of concerned native sons and daughters have got something going in this pretty Laguna city—a special map that opens artists' studios and off-the-beaten path inns and cafes to the summer traveler looking for an adventure

CREATIVE energies are bustling on the road from San Pablo, Laguna to Tiaong, Quezon. A group of friends have linked together to trace a route down the Maharlika Highway, connecting the dots to destinations that will allow you to experience southern Luzon in a soulful way. They've called the map Viaje del Sol—the way of the sun—and it runs though charming country inns, off-the-beaten-path cafes, and inspiring artists' studios. SIM joins the group, spearheaded by Patis Tesoro, fashion designer and owner of Kusina Salud; potter Ugu Bigyan; metal sculptor Carlitos Ortega; the author, writer An Mercado-Alcantara, and her husband, inn and resort owner Boots Alcantara; conservationist Mandy Marino; and restaurant owners Gary and Mikoy Alcalde in a discussion about their vision to attract tourists to their cultural loop.

SIM: Why did you come up with the Viaje del Sol map?

PATIS: It is about time that the private sector do something, rather than just wait for the government and blame the government. I think Filipino citizens and the private sector should get their act together and actually unite. Help each other, be truly a barangay.

AN: That's what I appreciate most about this map—that we are making a go at it together. Having a common map and common activities give us the opportunity to work together rather than compete with each other. Instead of working just from my little hole, doing my little thing, and hoping my neighbor doesn't outdo me. The Viaje del Sol group allows us to be major players in attracting tourists and creating pride of place for San Pablo and Tiaong.

UGU: *Totoo iyan*. Tourism is active in Tiaong. We do have meetings, but what happens is we just meet, there's no action. Nothing happens. That's why when I heard about this group, I thought it was a good idea. It will be easy to implement things because we're only 10 people, while with big groups it becomes complicated.

PATIS: Of course, Ado Escudero is the grandfather of all the efforts to try to bring tourists to this area. It all started with him. He says when he began he was all alone, people were laughing at him and saying that nobody would come all the way here.

BOOTS: Look at where the Villa is now—people come from all over the world.

PATIS: So now we are a group, we can help each other. We don't have to make a go at it alone.

GARY: That's what happened when we did "Let's Get Dirty" two years ago, an organic farmer's fair which was held at Patis Tesoro's garden. When we started, it was just a small group—*kami*, Mandy Marino, Patis and Tito, and Carlitos. The biggest problem then was we really didn't have a group. It was just a dream. But when we scouted for other participants, so many responded! And when "Let's Get Dirty" happened, thousands of people came. We couldn't believe it! That's why we were inspired to move. The private sector can really get things done. You can really see the sincerity of the group, there are no hidden agendas.Our real interest is to help the town, to help promote San Pablo and Tiaong. We believe we have what people are looking for—our environment, our lakes.

SIM: Why do you think there is a boom of creative people living in Laguna, and who are opening their places for people to dine in?

UGU: People come to me because of pottery, but they end up staying till lunch because my place is far and there's no nearby restaurant. That's why I started to serve lunch. Now it's funny, some people just come to eat, they don't buy the pottery. They like the ambience. Sometimes if there are a lot of guests, I bring out the workers—the weavers are under the mango tree, those who fossilize on the other side. So guests can walk around and see what's going on.

SIM:That's what people look for now?

UGU: Yes, those who look for other things.

PATIS: The goal is to truly make people experience again the freshness of food and environment which we used to know because in the past few years we've always been running for the money. I mean money is important, but at the end of the day, you find out that you really can't eat it or drink it. You work and then you get sick. So that really made my husband and I come out here. That is the aim of the map, too, to give people many ways of experiencing Laguna and Tiaong. Carlitos, for instance, can open his sculpture studio to visitors.

CARLITOS: They can watch while I'm welding things, but they can't be hands-on at once.

PATIS: That's okay. You can just take them through the process.

BOOTS: You can just have some that are semi-finished. You can show them from raw material to the welding process, and then jump to the finishing. People will re-

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Drive This Way. To get a free map, make a reservation at any of these Viaje del Sol destinations:

Kusina Salud, (0921) 7726985 or (049) 2466878; Casa San Pablo, (0917) 526-8628 or www.casasanpablo.com; Patio Verde, (049) 562-7346; Ugu Bigyan: Potter's Garden, (042) 545-9144 or (042) 545-8689; Colette's Pasalubong, (049) 562-6754 or (0919) 375-9009

No place like your hometown: (Standing) Tito Tesoro, Ugu Bigyan, Boots Alcantara, Carlitos Ortega, Nory Malimban, Gary Alcalde. (On mat) Patis Tesoro, An Mercado-Alcantara, Colette de la Cruz-Ortiz, Mikoy Alcalde

JO AVILA

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Pinoy Connection

by Eric S. Caruncho

Pound the Binondo Pavement With the Chinatown Kid

Born and raised in this throbbing enclave of the Chinese community, businessman and weekend walking tour guide Ivan Dy takes visitors on a tour that pleases the mind as well as the palate—and helps urbanites banish their "Manilaphobia"

FORGET it, Jake. It's Chinatown.

That, at least, is what a lot of people seem to say when someone suggests going down to Ongpin St. for some Chinese food other than Chowking, to Calle Soler for a quick screw (at the hardware store, dummy), to the Chinese drug store for some liver and kidney pills or some brain tonic (God knows we could all use some), or just to get out of the mind-numbing routine of office-mall-house. But that would mean—gulp!—actually going to Manila.

"You'd be surprised," says Binondo-born and bred Ivan Dy. "We all live in one big city, but we really live in our little villages. People from Alabang or Makati have told me that they've always wanted to visit Binondo, but they were scared to go."

What's not to fear? In many ways, Manila is still the middle-class suburbanite's nightmare. All the reasons they moved to the suburbs in the first place are still here: the teeming hordes of the great unwashed, the traffic, the noise, the pollution, the saliva...

But so are a lot of other things that you won't find in your average gated subdivision: history, culture, the throbbing pulse of modern urban life. Not to mention great food, fantastic bargains and a temporary escape from the cut-and-dried, predictable rut of office-mall-house.

Fortunately, for the timorous, there's one way to take that first step: take a guided walking tour.

On weekdays, the 26-year-old Dy is the operations manager of a Manila-based trading company. But on weekends, he dons his pigtailed silk cap and becomes—ta-da!—the Chinatown Kid.

"I got the idea when I joined walking tours abroad, in Singapore, Shanghai, Montreal and Washington, D.C.," he says. "When you go on one of these tours, you get a different feeling because your guide is a native of that city and he's proud of his city."

Natural appreciation

When he got back from his travels, Dy thought similar tours would be ideal for helping people overcome their initial Manilaphobia. He had worked as a guide at the Bahay Tsinoy, a museum of Filipino-Chinese history and culture at the Intramuros. But nothing brought history to life better than actually pounding the pavements where it all happened. Having grown up in a neighborhood where people could still point out, say, the street where Rizal's mother lived, or the house where Antonio Luna was born, Dy had a natural appreciation for history on the hoof, as it were.

Last year, he put up a website: www.oldmanilawalks.blogspot.com, where interested parties can sign up for one or more walking tours. Putting the actual walks together was the easy part, because it covers what is essentially Dy's own backyard. He put together three walks, with appropriately descriptive tags: "From Boondocks to Boomtown: A Chinatown Walk," "Power, Palace and A Shot of Beer: Poking Around Old Millionaire's Row (San Miguel)" and "Mounds, Magnates and Mausoleums: A Chinese Cemetery Walk."

"I was born and lived in Binondo until I was eight years old, then my family moved to Sta. Cruz," he says. "I was the fourth of six kids, and we lived in a typical Chinese compound where three families lived, so I grew up with grandparents, aunts and uncles and lots of cousins."

From an early age, Dy was already drawn to the old. "While other kids were playing with Transformers, I was reading history books," he recalls. "My dad encouraged me to read history and cultural stuff. Growing up in Binondo, a place which reeked of historical mementoes, my interest particularly zeroed in on the history of the Tsinoy community. Of course, the growth and evolution of the community had everything to do with Manila's, our country and our region's history so it was a natural inclination."

Dy attended high school at St. Jude's, which brought him to another historic district of old Manila, San Miguel.

"In San Miguel, it would the antebellum mansions of San Rafael, Arlegui and Solano streets," he says. "I always get a kick when I show them the Abbey of the Montserrat (a.k.a. San Beda Church). It never fails to get 'oohs' and 'ahhhs.'"

Morbid interest

As for the Chinese cemetery, apart from the fact that some of his ancestors are buried there and the obvious morbid interest, Dy also finds it endlessly fascinating.

"What I particularly like about it is that it's one big architectural history book," he says of the numerous mausoleums and the styles in which they were built. "You'll find *bahay na bato*, over-the-top Southern Chinese temples, Art Deco, Neoclassical. There's even a turtle-shaped plot, and an ancient Chinese burial mound, which is very rarely found nowadays, even in China. The Chinese cemetery is also where you'll find the oldest Chinese temple in the Philippines—the Chong Hock Tong temple."

Dy says the Chinese cemetery is also uniquely Tsinoy: You won't find anything remotely similar on the mainland. The custom of building mausoleums, he says, is a cultural accommodation combining Chinese ancestor worship with the Spanish-Filipino tradition of honoring the dead on Todos los Santos.

"If you go to Paris, you visit Pere

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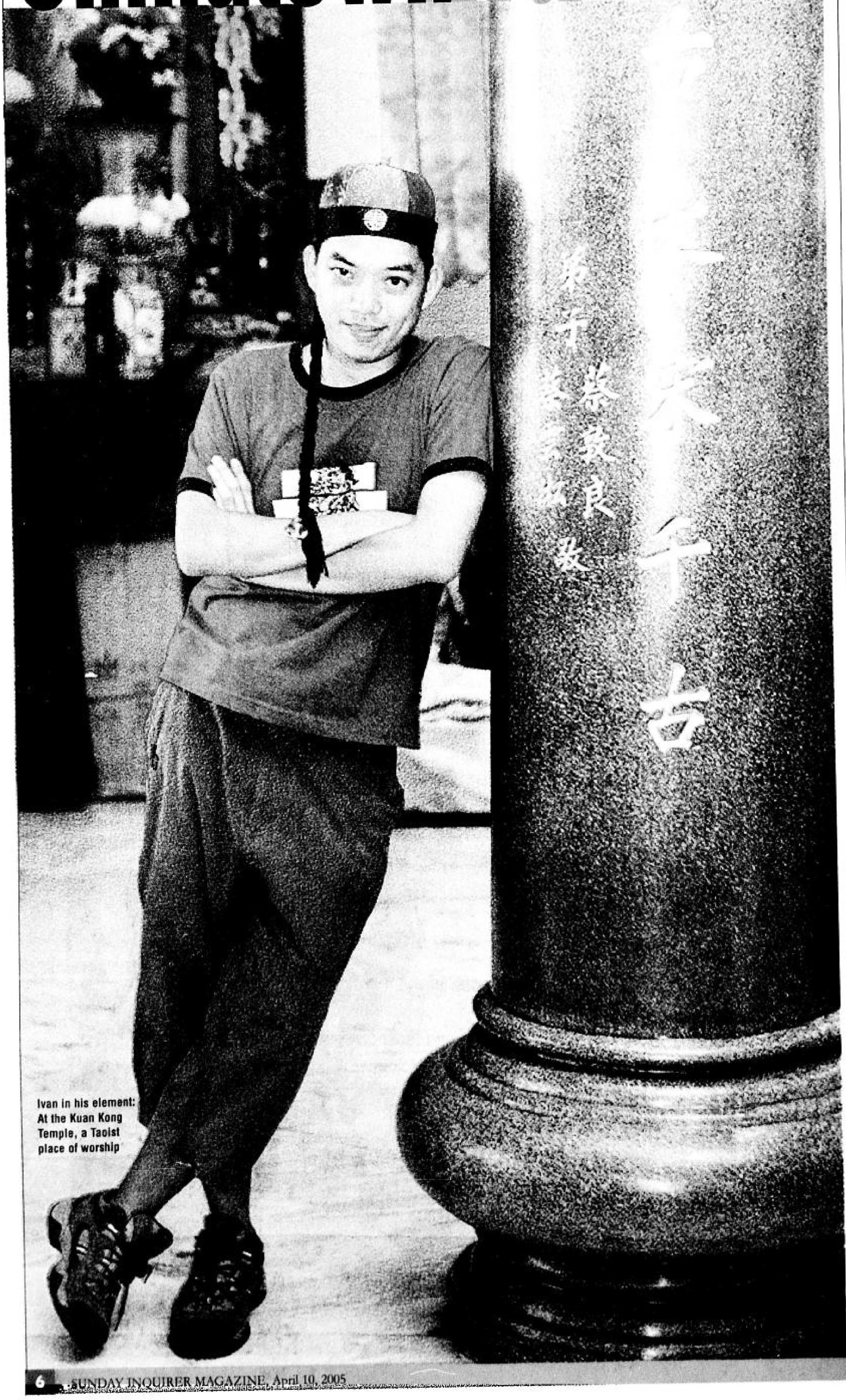
RYAN LIM



Ivan in his element: At the Kuan Kong Temple, a Taoist place of worship

This Week

Art

Cosmic Revolution, an exhibit of abstract paintings and sculptures in mixed media by Florence Cinco at the Big & Small Art Gallery, 3/F, Mandara Promenade Building, 198 Wilson St., Greenhills, san Juan until April 22. For details, call 911-3126.

small acts of public service, an installation exhibit of wall and pocket maps as well as photographs by Yumi Roth at the Vargas Museum, Roxas Avenue, UP Diliman, QC until May 22. For details, call 928 1927.

Art, installation exhibit by Nilo Ilarde at Mag:net Gallery, Paseo Center, Makati City until April 30. For details, call 817-7895.

Some 60 **outstanding photos by members of camera clubs** affiliated with the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation will be on exhibit until April 29 at the SSS Gallery in the Social Security System Building in Quezon City. For details, call 813-7420.

JESSICA ZAFRA
tw7sted

Author Jessica Zafra signs books at PowerBooks

Cinema

pelikula@titusbrandsma presents three award-winning films: "The Return" (Russia) is grand prize winner at 2003 Venice Film Festival while "Three Iron" (South Korea) won multiple honors at the Venice Fest last year. Capping the line-up is the gay film "The Embalmer" (Italy), which was screened during Director's Fortnight of 2002 Cannes Film Festival. April 16 at 1 p.m. at Titus Brandsma Center, 24 Acacia St., Cubao, Quezon City. For details, call 751-1169 (Maxie).

Atbp

National Bookstore offers J.K. Rowling fans a chance to be one of the first to read and own the **sixth installment of Harry Potter series:** "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince." Simply register your name and place a deposit of P500 at the Customer Service of any National Bookstore branch and you will be guaranteed a hot off the press copy on July 16, the day of the book's world release.

Headliner Productions will have a **summer gymnastics workshop** for kids and teens from April 19-May 31 at No.19 Dao St., Project 3, QC. For inquiries, call tel.413-8450 / (0921) 5392143.

The **Bert Lozada Swim School** has launched Camp Aqua 2005, its **Summer Learn-to-Swim program** at over 30 venues Luzon- and Visayas-wide. Students can choose from multi-level swimming programs from its Parent & Child Program for Infants up to its Adult Fitness Swimming Program. BLSP Learn-to-Swim programs include: Level 1: My Baby & Me Course (6 months to 3 years old); Level 2: Little Snapper (4 to 6 years old); Level 3: Swim Jammer 1 (Basic Course-7 years old and above); Level 4: Swim Jammer 2 (Advanced Course); Level 5: Swim Squad (Competitive Course). Other programs offered are Adult Fitness Swimming (19 years old and above), Kids and Teens Fitness Swimming (7 years old and above), Learn-to-Dive (7 years old and above), and Scuba Diving (12 years old and above). For details, call 563-5532 / 589-1982 / 562-8041 / 805-0237 / 803-5998 / 800-0573 or visit www.bertlozadaswimschool.com.

Alitaptap Storytellers Philippines, the volunteer storytelling group of the country, will conduct the **Acting and Reading Techniques of Book-Based Storytelling Workshop** on April 16-17, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Executive Lounge, 6th Floor, National Library of the Philippines, T. M. Kalaw Ave., Ermita, Manila. Workshop fee is P500. For details, call Aileen Elizalde at 0917-5392630 or 535-4689.

Act Now, the 2005 **UP Summer Theater Arts Workshop** from April 18 to May 18 at the Diliman Campus will concentrate on acting workshops for children, youth and adults. The workshop will prepare the participants through voice production, stage movement, theater games, improvisations, script and role analysis, role and scene study. It will also offer Creative Dramatics and Children's Theater and a series of lecture-demonstrations in exploring the World of Theater. For details, call Manny Casalan at 926-1349 or Larry Agunday at 924-8589 or 924-3224.

The **Cathedral Shrine and Parish of the Good Shepherd** in Fairview, Quezon City recently launched its program of activities for its **Pearl Parish Foundation Anniversary** on Aug. 18 with the theme "Rekindling the Gifts of the Good Shepherd. Highlights include the Feast of the Good Shepherd on April 17; Santacruzan Festival Procession on May 28; 21st Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church of the Good Shepherd on Aug. 19 and a number of liturgical and sports activities. For details, call 939-4720 and 430-8440.

The **Mother Earth Fair** will offer natural therapeutics and healthcare on April 16-17 at Santuario de San Antonio Parish Social Hall and Courtyard. The fair will feature alternative healing methods such as aromatherapy, reiki and pranic healing, basic reflexology, oriental healing processes like chakra alignment, color therapy and crystal healing. For details, call 825-0804 or 825-3482.

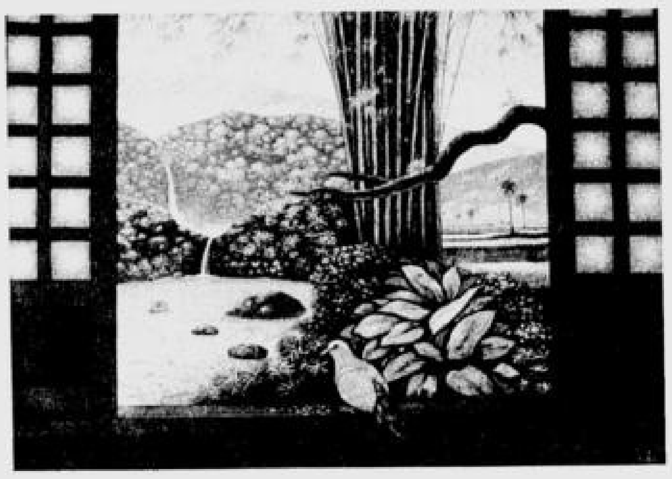
A two-day **seminar/workshop on Everything You Need to Know to Get Published** for would-be writers will be held on April 15 and 16 at the Old Swiss Inn, Makati Avenue, Makati City. It is open to a limited number of participants. For inquiries and reservations, call 812-6395.

Anvil Publishing Inc. recently released the seventh book of the best-selling "Twisted" by columnist and TV host Jessica Zafra. In **Tw7sted**, Zafra writes on about her quest for world domination, mortality, art and urban life with her usual acerbic humor. There will be a book signing on April 13, 6 p.m. at the Powerbooks, SM Megamall and on April 20, 6 p.m. at Powerbooks, Greenbelt 4.

X-manila

Nineveh Artspace located at 2452 1st Avenue, Villa Silangan Subd., Sta. Cruz, Laguna opens the following exhibits on April 10 at 3 p.m.: **Exodus**, a group show by R Mujeres, J Torres, R Pagarigan and J Corea; **When Everyone is Everything**, two-man show by L Paras and R Fajardo, and the solo exhibit **Landscapes in My Dreams** by D Rubio. For details, call (049) 808-6617.

The first Laguna Lifestyle Fair will be held on April 16 and 17 at the Plaza Regina in Paseo de Sta. Rosa along the Sta. Rosa-Tagaytay Highway. Items for sale range from high end goods like cars, travel destinations and real estate to everyday needs like clothes, fashion accessories, furniture, plants and garden supplies and toys. For inquiries, text Maya Padiernos at 0917-9925401 or Jean Alva at 0917-5410688.



"*Tanawin*" by Rubio, on view at Nineveh Artspace

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

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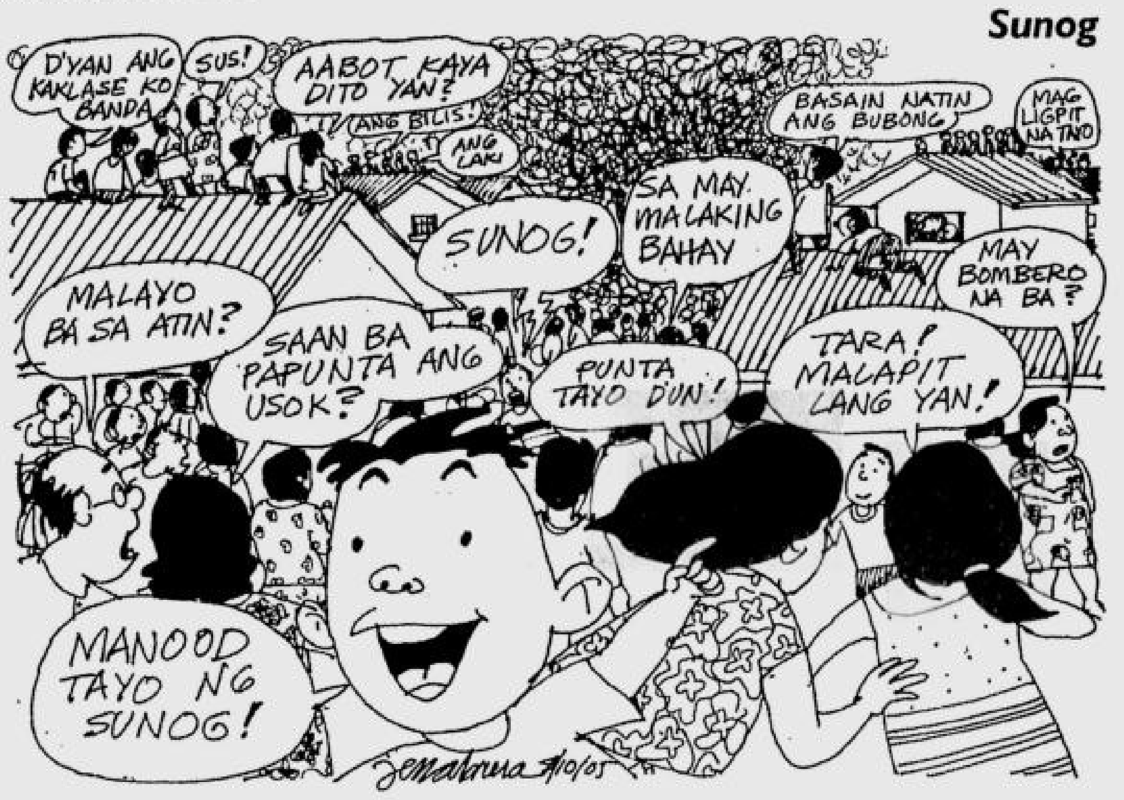
Pinoy Nga!

Sunog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SA MAY MALAKING BAHAY
SUNOG!
MAY BOMBERO NA BA?
MALAYO BA SA ATIN?
SAAN BA PAPUNTA ANG USOK?
PUNTA TAYO D'UN!
TARA! MALAPIT LANG YAN!
MANOOD TAYO NG SUNOG!
Jomalonua 4/10/05

The Artist

...from page 4

darat—slain with a single bullet to the head, right in front of her children. Frighteningly, since 1986, 66 journalists have been killed, according to the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines. Beyond the naming of alleged perpetrators (often known to the community) and the occasional trial, not a single case has been solved.

The NUJP was particularly incensed when the military, at a December briefing titled "Know Your Enemy," portrayed several legal organizations, including the NUJP, as aiding forces out to overthrow the government—all but branding those organizations as "terrorist." (Other groups named included the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, and the Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines—the latter two apparently part of the Communist Party of the Philippines' "legal machinery." Now you know why army intelligence is an oxymoron.) The NUJP declared that this allegation "would be laughable if not for the fact that several of the suspected killers of journalists come from state security forces. ...Why is the NUJP tagged as an 'enemy' when it has been working closely with law enforcement agencies to solve the murders of journalists in the country?"

Why, indeed? One could expand that question to ask why, in a so-called democracy, activists from different sectors are treated as the enemy. Groups like Bayan Muna, Anakpawis, Karapatan, and Gabriela have seen their members harassed, and in a number of instances abducted and/or salvaged. Bayan Muna alone has had 49 of its coordinators slain since 2001. Another violent reminder of the center's inability to hold was the assault on the Bagong Diwa detention center in Taguig, where 27 Muslim inmates—in possession of three handguns—were killed, a gross violation of human rights, à la the infamous Attica prison uprising of the early 1970s in upstate New York. The fact that two alleged Abu Sayyaf members were among the 27 in no way justified the assault. Each one of the 27 was entitled to his day in court. Surely the police and the military could have waited out the inmates until the latter succumbed to hunger, thirst, and fatigue. But then Malacañang seems bent on replicating Erap's ill-fated total-war policy against Muslim rebels.

The array of facts suggests a government that condones and even encourages these brutal acts, whether perpetrated on a journalist in a small city writing exposés of government corruption, on peasants and workers demonstrating for better wages and living conditions, or on political activists who seek a broader role for the disenfranchised in our society. Following Bush's lead, our Gloria—singing hallelujahs to Dubya, she was the first leader to endorse his call to arms—continues to exploit 9/11, expanding the amorphous global war on terror to include not just the two main insurgencies troubling the archipelago, but also just about any left-wing group even when that group expresses its dissent in perfectly legitimate ways. Like Washington, Malacañang has taken unwarranted liberties with civil liberties. If its cops and soldiers were really serious about securing the freedom of their fellow citizens, they would do well to follow their own counsel of knowing the enemy, and take the logical step of placing a great many of themselves under arrest.

Yes

...from page 4

ally enjoy that. At Casa San Pablo, we allow our guests to experience the hospitality of the old families of San Pablo. We serve them the food our *lola* used to prepare, we have wide open spaces and trees with hammocks for people to lie around in. It's like you also went home to your *lola*. Yet, we also showcase the creativity of the people of Laguna through our artwork and room décor.

PATIS: The Viaje del Sol map brings all that together for people. It gives them a suggested itinerary. For instance, they can drive for an hour and a half from Makati, and stop for a snack at Colette's before checking in at Casa San Pablo. Then they can have lunch at Ugu's or maybe visit Villa Escudero, and then come to Kusina Salud for dinner. You can also have another option, where you focus on crafts—pottery, abaca weaving, sculptor, coconut fibers, etc.

SIM: Patis, you're not from San Pablo. What made you fall in love with this place?

PATIS: The water, the trees, the weather, and of course, my friendship with Ado and Villa Escudero—but that's just me.

SIM: You've fallen in love enough to consider living here.

PATIS: Yes, because here you still have what used to be. You can still have a garden and the lifestyle that you used to know. It's cheaper than Manila, you get a better standard of living. In Manila, taxes are higher; you have to make *tipid* on electricity. In Manila, you still have to use the aircon, here you can do without it. You still have a chance for fresh air. It's basically the chance of quality of life in the province that has convinced me to stay here more often.

MIKOY: We relocated to San Pablo because we were looking for a better quality of life, less stressful, cleaner environment. In Manila, our children were getting asthma and Gary was stressed out at work. We found a better life here. But we said, we have to do something to help San Pablo prosper and be recognized.

BOOTS: We're the ones who should move. Love for country should begin with love for where we trace our roots. We have to have a sense of history. We should love San Pablo first before anyone else can.

Pound

...from page 6

Lachaise; if you go to Washington, you visit Arlington; why not visit the Chinese cemetery?" he asks.

But by far the most popular walk is the Binondo walk, because apart from seeing the sights, you also get to taste the tastes, because it is partly a culinary tour.

"One my aims is to introduce people to the wide variety of 'Chinese-inspired' food in Binondo, and their significance to us as part of our culture," he says. "The eats that are part of my Binondo walk isn't your typical Chinese fare. Some of these joints are places which a lot of people in Chinatown grew up with, like *mami* at Ma Mon Luk. Some are restaurants with a cause, such as the Cafe Mezzanine—a restaurant run by a Binondo Volunteer Firemen's group. Still others are restaurants serving non-traditional fare, places which serve tea-cooked eggs, Hokkien-style fried rice (called *kiampeng*), Amoy-style hand-rolled *lumpia*, *comida china* or even Northern style dumplings."

The Binondo tour has its share of exotica and chinoiserie. One can enter a sidestreet and walk up to the Kuan Kong Temple, a Taoist place of worship dedicated to the God of War and Literature, where visitors can burn incense or paper "money" offerings, or have their fortunes told by shaking a bamboo cylinder of divination sticks. Or visit La Resurreccion, where workers still hand-roll chocolate *tableas* the old-fashioned way. The wet market, with its tubs of sea cucumber and picked mustard greens also holds its own fascination, as do the newsstands and video shops selling Hongkong movies and Cantopop CDs.

"In all my tours, I make it a point to show people not just beautiful, architecturally-interesting places," says Dy. "I show them everything—even the not-so-pleasent ones. They may not be your ideal tourist sites, but these patches, like the *esteros* of Chinatown or the slums beside the Chinese Cemetery, are part and parcel of our city's evolutionary fabric, and they do have their own stories to tell too."

Speaking of evolution, Binondo itself is in flux as a new wave of immigrants comes in, drawn by the economic opportunities they see in Manila. Many of them speak Mandarin, rather than Hokkien, and are viewed with mixed feelings by the more established second- or third-generation Tsinoys. The "newcomers" come from a China that's very different from the one that the "oldtimers" knew. Standing on some of the most expensive real estate in the country, Binondo is an interesting vantage point from which to view Manila's emerging multicultural society.

This is all the stuff you'd miss if you stayed in the mall.

Says Dy: "I hope that those who join my walks leave with a lot of laughter, a satisfied palate, a better understanding of the Tsinoy community and an enriched appreciation of Manila—warts and all."

For tour information, text 0917-3291622.

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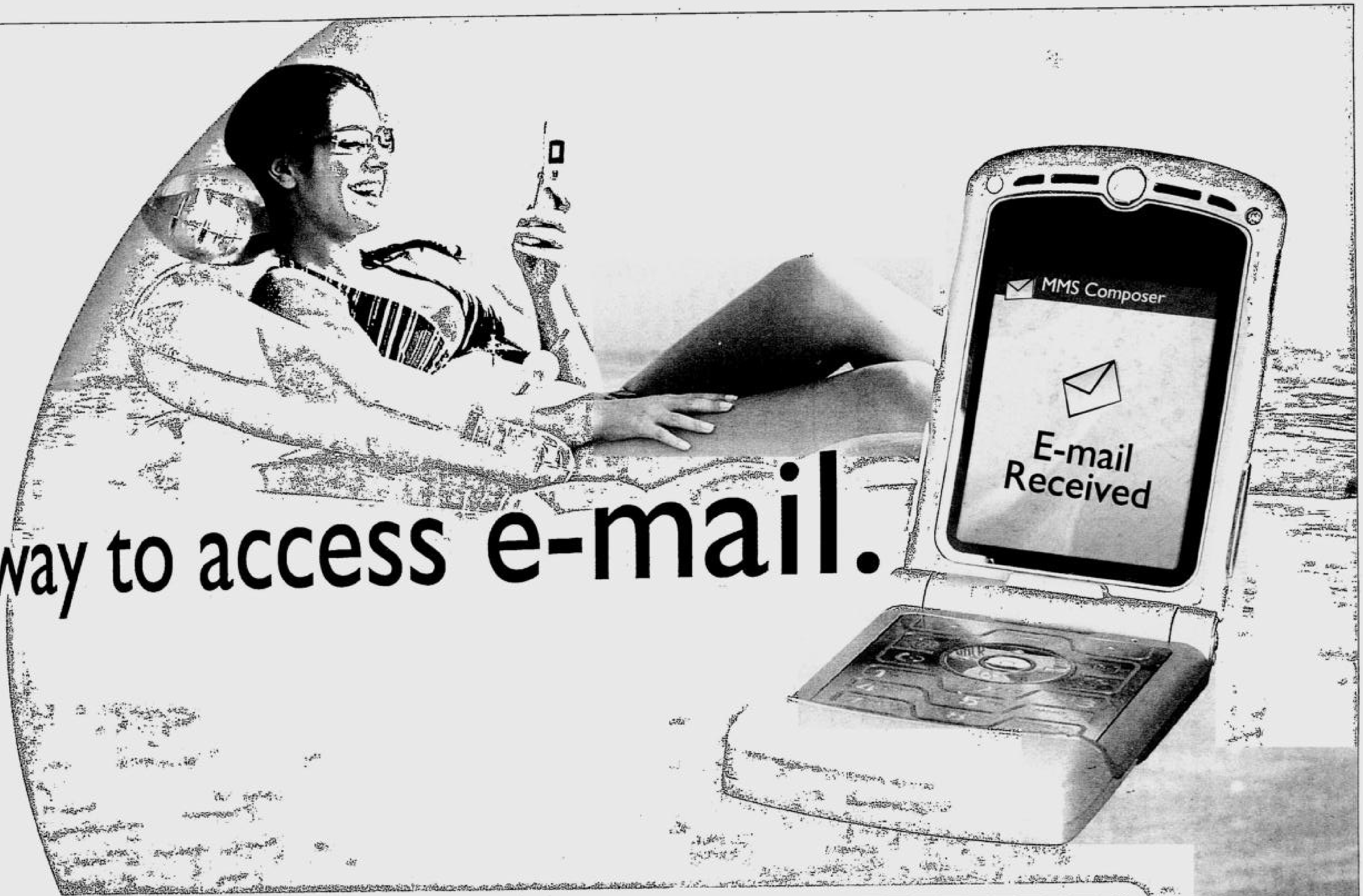

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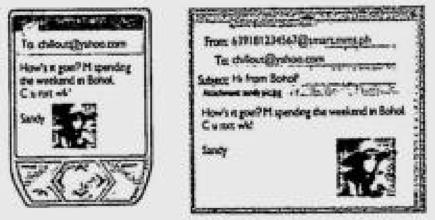
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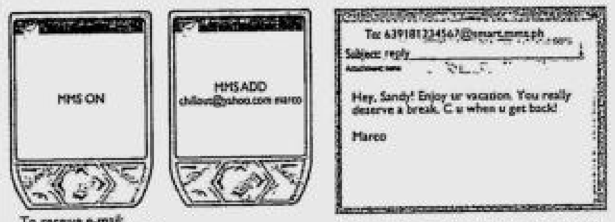
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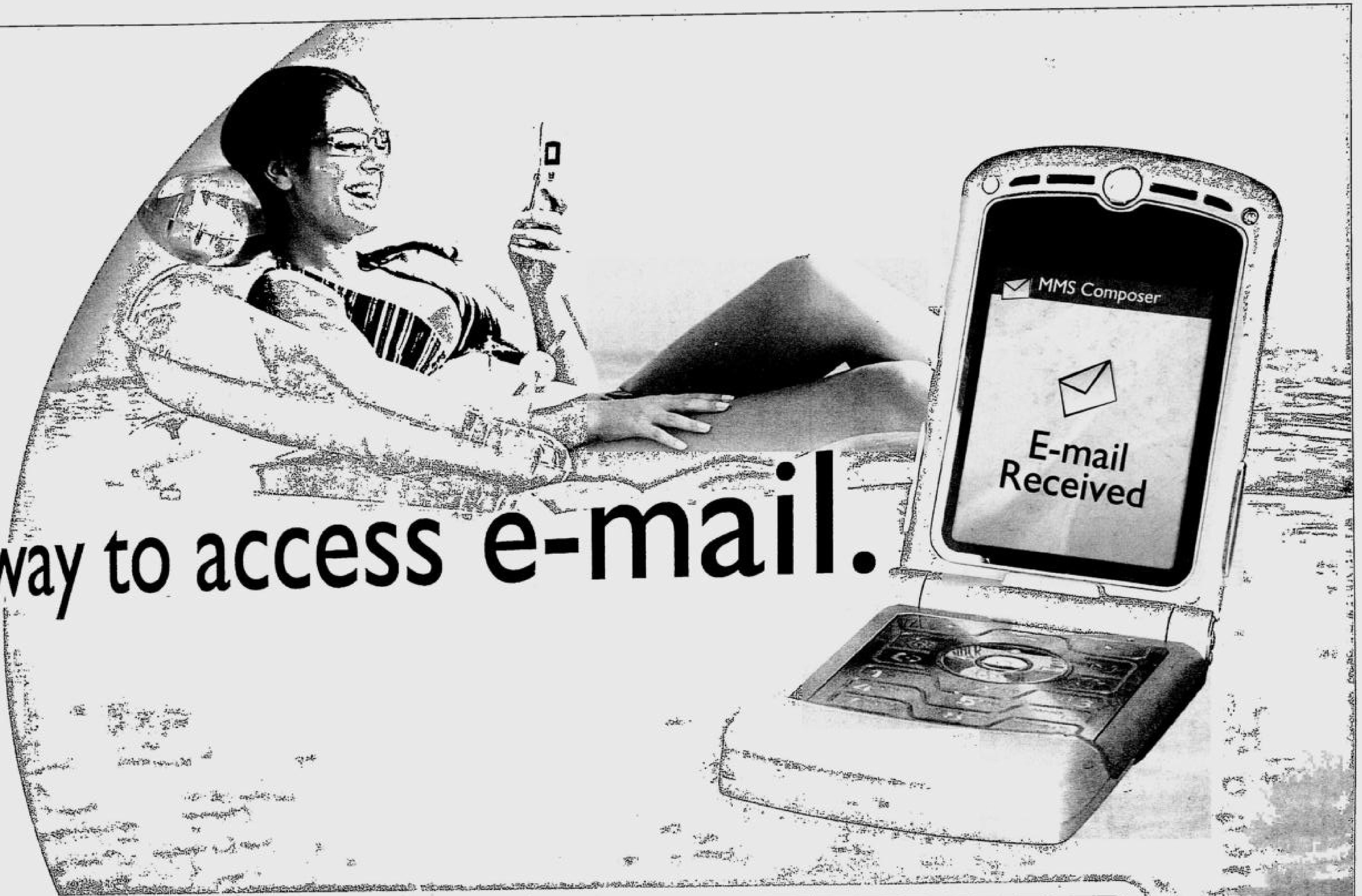

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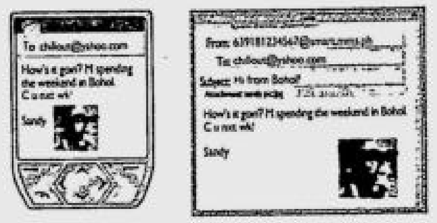

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